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Kent on Sunday

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‘Carnage’ on crossing will cost millions as probe into crash begins

By Joe Bill
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THE devastating 130-vehicle crash on the Sheppey Crossing this week is likely to cost motorists, insurers and local businesses more than £1 million, claims one expert.

Described as the biggest single crash in the county’s history, it left more than 200 people injured – eight seriously – but, remarkably, there were no fatalities.

Those seriously hurt are not believed to have life-threatening injuries.

Police described it as “miraculous” no-one died or that the collision did not spark a fireball.

Those involved in the crash say they heard cars colliding “for up to 10 minutes” as cars found themselves bearing down on stationary vehicles and ploughing into the back of them.

One said simply, “it was carnage”.

Now a major probe is under way into just what caused the crash.

With a heavy fog, it is expected to conclude vehicles were simply travelling too fast for the conditions.

However, concerns have been raised of potential flaws with the bridge itself – in particular the lack of a hard shoulder and lighting.

Issues were raised by both police and local politicians when the bridge was first built in 2006, but overlooked due to cost.

But as motorists this weekend begin the process of recovering their crumpled cars from a secure police compound, the huge cost of the pile-up is becoming apparent.

Ian Crowder, from motoring organisation the AA, said: “We could be looking in the region of at least £600,000 in total. That includes personal injury

Continued on page 2

Picture: JAIME EMMETT



NO-GO ZONE: Motorists and passengers caught up in Sheppey Crossing crash

EDUCATION

Free schools open doors

AMID the thousands of anxious 11-year-olds this week were a host of equally nervous school administrators as a string of free schools opened for the first time.

And while classrooms filled up with pupils,, parents were left counting the financial cost of the new term. **PAGE 4**

LAW

Gills lose out in race case

GILLINGHAM chief Paul Scally said the club was ‘frustrated’ after an appeal court threw out its bid for the result of an employment tribunal to be overturned.

Ex-player Mark McCammon claimed he had been treated differently due to the colour of his skin. **PAGE 17**

ENVIRONMENT

Battle over the greenfields

A DISPUTE over a local council’s plans to build thousands of new homes has intensified this week.

The Green Party has accused Maidstone Borough Council of seeking to build on greenfield sites – something the council says it will only do as a last resort. **PAGE 18**

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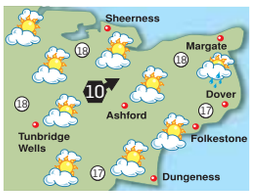
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Weather



TODAY: Some early showers, then dry and fine. Gentle winds. Max temp 16-19C (61-66F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with variable cloud. Min temp 9-12C (48-54F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	01.04	6.7	13.24	6.8
Margate	02.15	4.8	14.34	4.9
St Mary's	07.05	5.6	19.21	5.7

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 18C	Min 11C
Tuesday	Max 19C	Min 11C
Wednesday	Max 19C	Min 10C
Thursday	Max 20C	Min 13C
Friday	Max 21C	Min 12C
Saturday	Max 20C	Min 12C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

ROADS

'Miracle' no-one died in crossing crash

Continued from front page

claims, legal costs and damage to cars.

"But this doesn't take into account the costs imposed on the NHS, fire service and police. There is also the cost of clearing up the mess. Parts of the road may need resurfacing and crash barriers will need repairing. There will be delays on that road over the coming weeks while all this is carried out."

At its peak, there were some 30 ambulances at the scene, as medical crews set up a makeshift triage on the roadside to prioritise treatment for those injured.

Medway Maritime Hospital, which received many of the injured, declared a state of emergency and put all non-vital patient procedures on hold to allow it to cope with the wounded.

Seven fire engines, complete with mobile command unit, were also in attendance, with crews using hydraulic cutting equipment to free six people trapped in the tangled wreckage of their vehicles.

In addition, dozens of police were on hand to determine just what happened and organise the clear-up operation.

Mr Crowder added: "Economic damage has also been caused; there were a lot of commercial vehicles in there and the bridge closure means deliveries were not being made.

"People are missing flights on the way to the airport and others are having days off work and there are all sorts of other uninsured losses that everyone will have to fork out for.

"Accidents happen, but the knock-on effects are quite considerable. It runs into millions of pounds."

Mr Crowder echoed comments from AA president Edmund King that the crash was the result of "stupid driving".

He said: "There is no doubt people were obviously driving far too close."

Chief Inspector Andy Reeves believes it was a miracle no-one was killed in what he described as one of the worst crashes he had ever witnessed.

He said: "Given the amount of vehicles involved and the state some of them are in, it's miraculous there have been no fatalities."

Ambulance senior operations manager Chris Stamp said: "The scale of this incident made our response very challenging. However, we have well-rehearsed plans to manage these types of emergencies and we put these in place very quickly.

"As a result, and with the support of our colleagues in the police and fire service, our staff worked extremely well assessing and treating patients as swiftly as possible."

Jaime Emmett, 19, was one of those driving onto the bridge when she became involved in the pile-up.

She said: "I managed to stop in time, but a van smashed into me and I smashed into the car in front.

"All I could hear was the cars smashing into each other.

"It was so foggy I could literally see two or three cars in front of me – that was it.

"Then all I could see were smashed cars everywhere."

■ **Turn to page six for more details on Thursday's crash.**



Picture: SKY NEWS

CARNAGE: One hundred and thirty vehicles were involved in the crash on the Sheppey Crossing on Thursday

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH



Business Quarter
September 15
All the latest business news and the movers and shakers shaping the county's economy

Education
September 22
Ensure your child gets the best possible start in life by keeping up to date with their learning.





Festive parties
September 29
It may seem like a long way off, but don't miss our guide to the best Christmas parties

E-editions
Don't miss out
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TELEVISION

Highs and lows for teen X Factor star after live audition wows judges

By Chris Britcher
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ITV'S hit talent show the X Factor only returned to our screens last weekend, but one performer has already experienced more than her fair share of headlines since the broadcast.

Gravesend's Tamera Foster, 16, dazzled both the judges, then a live audience, during last weekend's double-header, which secured her a pass to the 'bootcamp' stage of the contest.

But it wasn't all smooth sailing for the teenager.

After initially being part of a double-act, the judges – Gary Barlow, Louis Walsh, Sharon Osbourne and Nicole Scherzinger – insisted she audition as a solo artist.

But when returning to perform at Wembley Arena, in front of a 4,000-strong audience, she appeared to freeze, forgetting her words and asking if she could have a moment off stage to compose herself.

After returning, she performed Whitney Houston's I Have Nothing with Take That star Barlow saying she had "potential beyond belief".

Louis Walsh said he believed she could even eclipse previous winner Leona Lewis.

But already the youngster has become embroiled in scandal with reports she was boasting about cannabis use on Twitter.

She told a national newspaper she was "upset and ashamed".

In addition, she apologised via the pages of The Sun newspaper to a girl she allegedly attacked last Boxing Day in Gravesend.

STRICTLY FOR WINNERS



THERE will be one very interested follower of Strictly Come Dancing this year – England's 1966 World Cup winner, George Cohen.

His nephew Ben Cohen (left) – a member of the victorious England 2003 Rugby World Cup winning squad – was unveiled as one of the contestants in the hugely popular BBC show.

The former Fulham footballer's brother, and Ben's father – Peter Cohen – was killed in 2000 after being attacked outside a nightclub he owned.

George, 73, worked for a property firm in Tunbridge Wells up until his retirement and along with wife Daphne, still lives in the town.

Other stars taking part in Strictly this year include BBC newsreader Susanna Reid and Channel 4's Countdown star Rachel Riley.

Picture: THAMES TV



ON SONG: Gravesend's Tamera impressed panel

CRIME

Youth PCC role is back

POLICE and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes will recruit a new youth commissioner next month, she confirmed this week.

It follows the Paris Brown fiasco in April, which saw the 17-year-old, from Sheerness, quit over obscene comments she made on Twitter.

She has also launched a survey to gauge opinion on the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. To take part see http://bit.ly/15uGPo7.

DEVELOPMENT

Tesco gets approval

THE long-running saga over a key part of Dartford's town centre was finally resolved this week as Tesco was given the go-ahead for a major development.

It will see Lowfield Street, described by council leader Jeremy Kite as "a blight on our town", transformed with a major superstore and new retail outlets.

CRASH

M20 closed in smash

A MOTORCYCLIST was left fighting for her life after crashing on the M20 near Ashford on Thursday.

She was rushed to a London hospital after the accident on the coastbound section between junctions nine and 10. It forced the road to be closed for almost seven hours.

Witnesses should call 01622 798538.

NATURE

Don't believe the hype over 'deadly' hornet invasion, but do stay vigilant

REPORTS of swarms of 'killer' hornets invading Kent's shores to attack our stricken honey bee population have been played down by government experts.

It has been widely claimed the Asian hornet is set to decimate what's left of the county's bees as they arrive in clouds from France.

The fear was sparked by a possible sighting near Maidstone.

However, the Food and Environment Research Agency called it nonsense – but bee-keepers do need to be vigilant.

A spokesman from Fera told this paper: "The scare began when there was a possible sighting of an Asian hornet.

"But tests have been completed now and it has been confirmed it wasn't one.

"They have been in France, after arriving in a consignment of pottery, for some years now, but we have never seen any in the UK.



WATCH OUT: The Asian hornet

"That is not to say bee-keepers and the public needn't be vigilant and report any suspicious sightings."

She criticised some wild claims that Kent is already under attack from the critters.

The spokesman said: "An alert went out to bee-keepers in the south east because of this suspect sighting but it has been confirmed this was not an Asian hornet and there have never been any UK sightings.

"Our message is the same – be on the look-out for it but we are not expecting it to arrive in swarms over the Channel."

Jenny Spon-Smith, the general secretary of Kent Bee-keepers' Association, wrote on its website: "We would encourage bee-keepers particularly in this area to familiarise themselves with the Asian hornet and remain vigilant when visiting their apiaries and inspecting their colonies."

In the event of an invasion, Defra (Department for Environmnet, Food and Rural Affairs) has an action plan already in place.

This includes the early detection, interception and work to prevent them from establishing colonies.

Defra also said a programme of nest destruction would be implemented to eradicate localised outbreaks.

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EDUCATION

Education minister Michael Gove has championed them, but opponents are fierce in their criticism,

Will new breed of free schools be

Special KoS Report

By Marijke Cox
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THEY continue to cause controversy and rankle education traditionalists, but the advent of a generation of free schools is well and truly here, with four such schools – three of them secondary – opening their doors to pupils for the first time this week.

What impact, if any, they will have on Kent's educational landscape and neighbouring establishments remains to be seen, but for now, Hadlow Rural Community School, near Tonbridge, Trinity School in Sevenoaks, Wye School near Ashford and The Wells School in Tunbridge Wells are focusing on the term ahead.

Hadlow, Trinity and Wye are, after all, the first secondary free schools to open in Kent, a county with an already multi-tiered schooling system.

The first-ever free school in the county was the Tiger Primary which became Maidstone's first new primary in 25 years when it opened its doors last year.

The Wye School has already ignited its fair share of controversy during the planning stage, after becoming embroiled in a row over both its creation and the buildings it wanted to use.

When originally touted, education chiefs at Kent County Council said it would be in the "wrong place at the wrong time".

They stated it was "some distance" from Ashford's growth areas and that there was no need for a new school.

There was a fear it would pull children from schools in both Ashford and Canterbury, thus putting a strain on other state schools who could find themselves under subscribed.

In the village itself, there was then a row over where any new school would be sited.

Some suggested the plans were simply a way of bringing the deserted former Wye College buildings in the village back into use, rather than actually catering for an educational need.

Concerns were also raised when the Education Funding Agency, the funding arm of the Department for Education, stepped in deeming the Edwardian campus unsuitable and instead outlining plans for the new school to be in the Kempe Centre – the new library on the college campus – and new-build buildings.

This led many pushing the project to question whether or not to go ahead.

But the free school, run by United Learning, a group of academies and independent schools, opened this week to a fanfare, with its first cohort of students – some 90 Year Seven pupils – taking their seats in the classroom. The school will eventually accommodate 600 pupils.



FORWARD: An artist's impression of Hadlow Rural Community School (above) and the future home of



Chair of the school's local governing body, Margaret Williams, told KoS that concerns had been overcome, with the "best of both worlds" now met through a masterplan proposed by the land's owners, Imperial College.

"We're based in the Kempe Centre at the moment and we'll be here for two years," she said.

"We'll then move into the historic buildings and what that will involve is some of the school being in part of the old college.

"Our hope is the main entrance will be there. We will then use the buildings behind as well as demolishing the redundant buildings and replacing them with new ones.

"The facilities, which will include a new sports hall, will be shared with the community.

"This is the best of both worlds. It is what the community always wanted; a new school in the village which is not intrusive."

She added: "It's very exciting; the first 90 pupils started this week. This is three forms of entry, but split up into four groups for core subjects, like English, maths and science.

"We're offering a very broad curriculum with lots of extra curricular activities."

She said the school had been set up in response to parental demand for more non-selective secondary provision in the area.

A question mark remains, however, over whether parents should decide on school provision instead of the local education authority, KCC, which is likely to have a broader idea of need, demand and growth across the county.

Critics warn that parents, charities and other organisations now handed the power to set up schools, may do so simply to benefit them rather than due to any wider need.

Concerns have also been raised over the impact free schools could have on neighbouring schools, particularly those already under-subscribed and dependent on pupils to stay open.

The National Union of Teachers (NUT) branded them a waste of money and predicted "chaos" in the school system at a local level.

The union warns that groups setting up their own schools irrespective of local planning needs would lead to "planning gridlock and social division".

But those behind Kent's free schools promise they will be a positive addition to the education system.

Hadlow Rural Free School boasts arguably the most interesting concept.

Set up by Hadlow College, the school's roots are entrenched in agriculture, with traditional academic subjects – matching the National Curriculum – combined with land-based, practical activities, such as milking cows, night fishing and animal management.

The non-selective school is, for the time being, sited at the college.

Headteacher Steven Davies said the new intake includes grammar-suitable children who passed their Kent Test (11-plus exam).

"It's a wide ability school, the kind that currently doesn't exist in Kent," he said.

"We provide for children who could have gone to grammar, for a wide range of abilities... from my point of view they will get better provision than at other schools."

The school is small, with 60 Year 7s, split into three classes, and 20 Year 10s taken on.

Eventually, the total headcount will be 330 children.

This small number is in line with many free schools which have much smaller registers,

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now next generation of secondary schools are here

top of the class?



the Wye School in the ex-college building (below)

something school governors argue will give children more personal support.

While Hadlow has perhaps escaped any fierce controversy, Trinity School in Sevenoaks has been the focus of much debate.

Supported by 28 local churches, the Christian school won the backing of the Government, perhaps to the detriment of the planned new grammar annexe in Sevenoaks.

The satellite grammar was due to be housed on the KCC-owned Wilderness site, set to be vacated by the Knole Academy in 2015.

But the Government stepped in saying it wanted to site the Trinity School there instead.

This move only went to highlight education secretary Michael Gove's apparent desperation to see his hugely criticised free schools policy work, even to the detriment of the Conservative-supported grammar school system.

The doors to Trinity School, temporarily based at Ryedale Court in Riverhead, opened this week boasting a broadly traditional curriculum with opportunities for pupils to work with the community through churches and local voluntary groups.

The school insists it is not only for Christian children and that half of its intake is non-faith.

While the focus will be on these new secondary free schools, The Wells Free School also opened its doors this week.

The second primary free school to launch in the county, it was set up in response to the shortage of primary places in Tunbridge Wells.

Some 72 children started this week, eventually growing to 168 at full capacity.

The school will have small classroom sizes with no more than 24 pupils per class.

It will run on four principles, "well-being, community, purposeful learning and inclusion" which it says will enable pupils to leave as "decent, respectful young people who are able to make a productive and positive contribution to society".

It won headlines for telling parents pupils could have Friday afternoons off if, as a family, there were to do something 'educational' together.

Whether a supporter of free schools or not, these latest openings signal yet another change to schooling. Already multi-tiered with grammars and non-selectives, academies and local authority-run schools, how this latest breed of school will fit in will prove interesting in Kent's educational landscape.

Opening this week...

1 **Hadlow Rural Community School** is a co-educational, mainstream secondary (11-16), opening in the village of Hadlow, near Tonbridge.

Opened by Hadlow College and starting with 60 Year 7 pupils and 20 Year 10, it will specialise in rural and land-based studies alongside traditional curriculum subjects.

It will eventually have 335 places.

2 **Wye School** is a small, all-ability, mixed secondary school for children aged 11-19, with 90 children in each year group.

It will serve the community north of Ashford.

Run by United Learning, a group of academies and independent schools, Wye opened with 90 Year 7 pupils, but will eventually accommodate 600 students.

3 **Trinity School** is a 11-18-year-old, co-educational school in Sevenoaks, designated as Christian and sponsored by a new educational trust.

The trust was set up to establish the school, and is made up of around 25 Protestant, mostly Anglican, local churches.

It will eventually have capacity for 790 pupils.

4 **The Wells Free School** is located on the former Kent and Sussex Hospital site in Tunbridge Wells.

The primary school opened with 72 pupils and will grow to 168 pupils at full capacity.

The school was proposed by a group of local parents. There will be no more than 24 pupils to a class.

What is a free school?

A FREE school is an all-ability, state-funded school set up in response to demand in the area and the need to improve education for children in the community.

It is largely based on the free schools model in Sweden which education secretary Michael Gove said drives up standards.

The local education authority is able to advise on whether such a school should open, but the decision ultimately falls on the Government.

Critics say it is wrong for central government to make such important decisions on local issues.

Opponents also warn free schools are a waste of money and create social division, where those running the schools could turn away "problem" children.

This has been fiercely denied, with the Department for Education stating that all schools are subject to the same admissions rules.

The National Union of Teachers is opposed to free schools.

General secretary Christine Blower said they were a "magnet for the middle class".

"The Government's commitment to free schools will create chaos at local level.

"Groups setting up their own schools irrespective of local planning needs will be a retrograde step that will lead to planning gridlock and social division."

HARD-HIT PARENTS DIG DEEP FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL

IT IS that time of year again when families are digging deep to try and ensure their children are fully kitted out for the return to school.

But while the focus is on uniforms and PE kits, this is just the tip of a very large iceberg. Throw in travel costs and school equipment and the bill is into the hundreds of pounds.

And if families have more than one child at school, they are faced with double and often triple the costs, pushing families on low incomes, in some cases, to the brink.

Kent County Council has, to an extent, attempted to help parents with travel costs, launching the Kent Freedom Pass in 2008 and rolling it out countywide in 2009.

Initially £50, the cost increased to £100 in 2011, although children from low income families on free school meals can get the pass for a reduced fee.

It allows young people in years 7-11 unlimited travel around the county.

While admittedly this saves hundreds of pounds on the previous standard young person's travel card, it is still one of a long list of necessities cash-strapped parents must buy ahead of the start of term.

At the same time, the council last year removed free home-to-school transport for children travelling to faith or grammar schools which were not their closest school.

It means an added cost for some, although KCC stressed that families on maximum working tax credits and those receiving free school meals would still get the free travel.

A survey by charity Family Action found the average annual back-to-school costs are £156 for a primary school child and £285 for a child at secondary. Some schools ask that parents buy branded PE kits and specifically coloured coats. Text books and some school equipment are also on the list.

Chief executive of Family Action, David Holmes, said: "The cost of sending children back to school is becoming prohibitive for many families on low incomes. The fairest solution is to change the way we approach school uniforms. Let families buy good value plain clothes and add a school logo to them."





ACCIDENT

MP and police chief had safety concerns about Sheppey Crossing before 130 vehicles collided

By Joe Bill
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AN URGENT review into the safety of the Sheppey Crossing has been demanded after the devastating 130-vehicle crash this week.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson says he will go to the Department of Transport to raise concerns first touted when it was built in 2006.

While the cause is expected to be due to the foggy conditions and motorists driving too fast, without leaving sufficient space between vehicles, Mr Henderson believes there are more fundamental problems.

The Conservative MP said: "To be frank, we were lucky this time; next time we might not be. It could be an absolute disaster.

"I will be raising the issue with the Department of Transport so a review of safety on the bridge is undertaken and measures can be taken to try and ensure this never happens again."

In 2006, Mr Henderson joined former Kent Police Chief Constable Mike Fuller in raising concerns the new crossing lacked some safety features including lights, a hard shoulder and emergency telephones.

He added: "Until we hear the results of the accident investigation there is no suggestion the design of the bridge was at fault in this particular case. But I did, along with Mike Fuller, raise concerns about a new bridge that had not included key safety features.

"Hindsight is a great thing, but I do think the bridge would be safer with lights on it, and that is something which will have to be looked at."

More than 30 ambulances were called to the crash site along with crews of firefighters and police to deal with more than 200 injuries – eight of which were deemed serious, but not life threatening.

Mr Henderson said he couldn't believe the scene of destruction which greeted him as he arrived on the bridge to speak to the injured on Thursday afternoon.

He said: "I live on the island, so it was all very close to me. I am sure the vast majority of the people on that bridge were from the island so these are my friends and neighbours.

"When I heard the news in the morning I was shocked, but when I stood on the bridge and looked around it was like a war zone.

"I felt as though I was in the middle of Beirut, when you see one of those bomb blasts that have decimated cars.

"When I saw the state of some of the cars I simply could not believe that people had been able to get away without being killed. It was a miracle."

There was high praise for the firefighters who worked tirelessly to free motorists from their cars while paramedics set up a roadside triage to diagnose patients and get them sent to the appropriate hospitals in the region.

Mr Henderson added: "The incredible work done by the emergency services and the highways agency to ensure this important crossing was reopened at 6pm, was extraordinary."





WHITE OUT: Local MP Gordon Henderson (right) will raise issues with the Department of Transport over the crash. Below shows the length of the Sheppey Crossing and a scene from the incident on Thursday



Picture: PAUL JERREAT



Picture: @JAIME EMMETT

Mystery driver 'saved lives'

MOTORISTS in the crash have paid tribute to a lorry driver whose quick thinking 'saved lives'.

Speaking to Sky News, driver Chris Buckingham said: "He was going the other way and what he managed to do is go down to the end of the carriageway, across the roundabout and block off the road so no more cars could enter before the emergency services got there.

"Whoever that guy is I'd like to shake his hand because he's probably saved lives."

The crash started at around 7.15am and continued for 10 minutes in visibility that was down to 20 yards.

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Price reductions will also be given on all special orders.

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Jonathan Watts- Managing Director

See Next Weeks Newspaper For Details!

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Advertiser's Announcement

High-end kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture manufacturer introduces new range of kitchens aimed at the mid-market customer

By Daniel Reynolds

JUST walking into the Ream showroom at Gillingham Business Park you can instantly see why the company has been the preferred choice of luxury kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms for the past 34 years – the displays are simply stunning!

Whilst many companies are struggling to make ends meet in the current financial climate, Ream are still expanding, and with recent investment into new state-of-the-art machinery at their manufacturing facility, Ream are now able to offer a new range of kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture named the 'Kent Collection'.

Managing director Peter Cross said: "This is a very exciting time and opens up a brand new market for us. What's more, it allows many customers who believed that a bespoke kitchen would exceed their budget, a real opportunity to own a high-end kitchen at mid-range prices."

So, if you are currently in the market for a new kitchen, bedroom or bathroom, here are six critical qualities you should expect:

1) **You should not have to pay a fortune. Even the most experienced, specialist kitchen bathrooms, bedroom and home living supply-and-fit companies will offer you competitive prices and value for money.**
2) **Furniture installation is a skilled – actually, highly skilled – job. Look for a company with its own installation team who have many years experience and expertise fitting a wide variety of different products.**
3) **Choose a company that offers you a complete, start-to-finish service: building work, floor and wall tiling, electrical and plumbing. You do not want lots of different tradespeople doing various parts of your project. Expect your kitchen, bathroom, bedroom or home living company to do everything; you'll get a far better, more reliable job, and you only ever have to communicate with one company..**
4) **Ask for (and expect) FREE computerized 3D planning. You should be offered unlimited alterations until your design is exactly how you want it, right down to every detail.**
5) **You should be offered a 100% guarantee on all installation work, plus furniture. No quibbles. I would personally never use a company that isn't prepared to put its money where its mouth is. They should be fully prepared to guarantee the quality of workmanship they promise you by coming back without charge if anything goes wrong... and fixing it.**
6) **The best companies have a choice of modern, contemporary and traditional styles for you to choose from, each with factory built, colour matched rigid cabinets (never flat pack).**

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REAM are one of the best, most meticulous and skilled kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and home living suppliers and fitters I have found.

They really take an interest in your job, and put an incredible amount of care and attention into building and finishing your project to craftsmen standards.

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This company is impressive. They discuss every detail with you and care about your project as if they were installing it for one of their best friends.

They have a large range of styles you can choose from, all of a superb high quality, an excellent range of products from most of the best-known and reliable manufactures, plus worktops including granite, Corian and solid wood, as well as sinks, taps and a large range of great and varied accessories.

Ream give you a complete guarantee on ALL your work and furniture

Mr Cross insists on guaranteeing the work his team do for you.

Luckily, little ever goes wrong because his directly employed installation team are among the best and most reliable fitters in the country.

He says: "We put our money where our mouth is. If anything at all is not 100% right for you, or if anything goes wrong, we make it a priority to come back and correct it immediately, totally at our cost. We promise the best value in everything we do and we ensure that promise is lived up to."



Peter Cross, managing director

My advice?

IF YOU'RE thinking of having a new kitchen, bathroom, bedroom or home living furniture fitted, call Ream now to arrange your free consultation.

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OBITUARY

‘He really did have the lot’: Professor’s tribute to legendary David Frost

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

FAMILY and friends of the late, great Sir David Frost have spent the week coming to terms with his sudden death last weekend, after he suffered a heart attack on a cruise ship.

The 74-year-old writer and broadcaster was midway between Southampton and Lisbon, Portugal, on the Queen Elizabeth cruise ship when he died.

His body was returned to shore at Lisbon earlier this week, following his collapse last Saturday. He had been on board the ship to deliver a speech to those travelling.

Details of his funeral and memorial service are expected to be revealed soon.

He left behind his wife and three sons – all of whom were “devastated” by his death.

Sir David had just sold his £5 million home in Hampshire with a view to he and his wife embarking on another chapter of his remarkable life.

All of which was a far cry from the modest terraced home he grew up in in Gillingham.

Having been born on April 7, 1939 in Tenterden, David Paradine Frost, the son of a Methodist minister, grew up in the Medway towns with his two older sisters.

He attended Barnsole Road Primary School and then Gillingham Grammar School, now known as Robert Napier.

His family moved out of the county during his time at secondary school, but he remained loyal to Gillingham Football Club and supported them throughout his life.

To remember him, Gills fans gave him a minute’s applause before the midweek game against Leyton Orient.

After completing his education at Cambridge, where he met some of the soon-to-be Monty Python team and other top stars like Peter Cook, he went on to an enviable television career that took in comedy and saw him become a chat show and game show host.

But it was his interviews with the world’s most powerful figures which would see him become a household name on both sides of the Atlantic.

Former US President Richard Nixon famously underestimated him and ended up giving a tearful apology for the Watergate scandal in a televised interview.

He interviewed all six British prime ministers between 1964 and 2007, and the US presidents in office since 1969.

In 1970 he was awarded an OBE and was then knighted in 1993.

On what is thought to have been his last public visit to Kent, in 2008 Sir David picked up an honourary degree from the University of Kent at a ceremony in Rochester.

The university’s media professor Tim Luckhurst met Sir David twice.

He told us: “He was a pioneer in television which makes him special.

“Almost from the minute he graduated from Cambridge, he recognised television was the medium of the future.

“And that was not an obvious recognition for someone who went to university in 1958; it was all very new then.

“He was as big in the United States as he was in his native UK at a time when breaking America had only been done by the Beatles and a few rock bands.

“He signed his first network contract in 1968, which is an astonishing achievement.

“He made such an impact over there that when former President George Bush senior was at a Downing Street reception, he spotted Frost and told him: ‘Ah, thank goodness, at last, someone I recognise’. That was the scale of his fame.

“This is why he got the big interviews, because he was so recognisable on both sides of the Atlantic.”

Prof Luckhurst also countered some claims that Sir David was simply too nice to his guests.

He said: “That is simply not true. He had the ability to lure people in to a feeling of security and then went for the jugular.”

Sir David’s skills as a speaker were also laid bare when he picked up that honorary degree.

Prof Luckhurst said: “He had no idea he had to make a 20-minute speech, but he just started unscripted and had the audience rolling in the aisles with a flawless, funny, incisive and completely-to-the-point delivery. And he was 69 at the time. He really did have the lot.”



A CAREER PLAYED OUT ON SCREEN

FROST’S versatility was key to his remarkable longevity at the very top of his profession.

He progressed from appearances in satire show That Was The Week That Was in the early 1960s and The Frost Report, to fronting the David Frost Show in America which made him an international name.

Helping to found London Weekend Television, he also helped launch breakfast TV show TV-am in 1983.

In the 1990s he produced and hosted game show Through the Keyhole before moving to the BBC for Breakfast with Frost. When Al-Jazeera launched an English-speaking channel, he hosted Frost All Over the World from 2005.

AWARDS

Hunt begins to cook up top young chef

ORGANISERS of this year’s Kent Young Chef Competition have started encouraging entries.

Now in its fifth year, and run by local food and drink champions Produced in Kent, the contest aims to encourage youngsters in secondary school to write and submit an original and innovative main dish - featuring seasonal Kent produce.

There are two year groups to compete for - the junior title for years seven and eight, and senior for years nine to 11.

Those selected will take part in a ‘live cook off’ on November 22 at K College’s Brook Street campus in Tonbridge where four finalists from each of two age groups will be invited to cook their recipes.

For details see www.producedinkent.co.uk.

CHARITY

Last places remain for charity ride to Paris

CHILDREN’S hospice Demelza is making a final appeal for cyclists to join its charity team cycling from Sittingbourne to Paris next year.

So far 91 have signed up for the 270-mile challenge which runs from April 30 to May 4.

Just nine places remain.

Registration costs £100 and cyclists must pledge to raise at least £1,750 which covers the cost of travel and accommodation as well as raising vital funds for Bobbing-based Demelza.

The Demelza 101 event aims to raise £100,000 which would pay for two nurses and one care assistant for a year, a day’s care at its Eltham hospice, a day’s care at its Sittingbourne hospice and a day’s care in East Sussex.

To sign up or for more information, see www.demelza.org.uk.



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AID

Volunteer swaps college for the Congo

Marijke Cox speaks to the woman who spent her holiday saving lives

LIFE in the seaside town of Whitstable could not be more different than the dense forests and intense humidity of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

But for Dr Barrie Rooney, it's the place she chose to spend the last three months, volunteering with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) – Doctors Without Borders – helping combat the parasitic disease Human African trypanosomiasis (HAT).

Also known as sleeping sickness and caused by the tsetse fly, the killer disease occurs in isolated tropical areas where there is little or no access to medical care or funds to help victims.

Farmers and fisherman are most at risk of being exposed to tsetse flies, which gather on rivers and in farming areas.

"There's no vaccine. It's a parasite which slowly kills unless it is treated," said 51-year-old lab technician Dr Rooney, who works at Hadlow College when she is not volunteering for MSF.

MSF, which travels to war zones and countries suffering from disasters such as earthquakes, has been working over the last 10 years to tackle the problem, screening people in remote villages, treating them and training local people in how to treat the disease.



Picture: SEBASTIAN BOLESCH

HELP: Barrie Rooney checks samples

"Ten years ago, 50 per cent of people we screened would be carrying it. These days it's 10 per cent," said Dr Rooney. "We trained local people and the work has continued."

Some 50 people were this time trained by specialist volunteers.

"If found early enough, people can be treated," said Dr Rooney.

DR Congo is home to 80 per cent of all reported cases of sleeping sickness and the Orientale Province, where the screening was carried out, is one of the most active areas in the world.

Dr Rooney was in charge of setting up portable labs to carry out testing and treatment in remote villages, often accessible only by canoe, helicopter or motorbike. The team spent weeks carrying equipment through dense forest to reach the communities.

Dr Rooney said up to 500 people could be screened a day and due to work by MSF, few cases of the disease were found – although there are still people who need to be found and treated.

The team also turned their attention to other ongoing problems.

Malaria is a particular problem and MSF provided testing and treatment, with a particular focus on pregnant women and children under five.

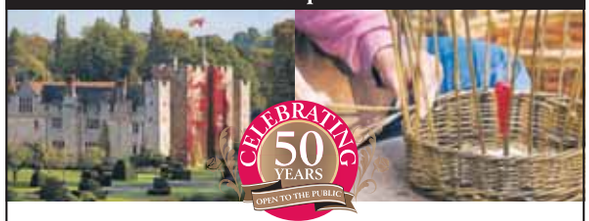
Some 4,309 people were tested for malaria and 77 per cent of those under five tested positive.

"It's upsetting when babies die. We always see a few babies die for the sake of a drug which costs about £5."

The team also deals with other emergencies, such as injuries from animal attacks, including crocodiles and snakes, or from machetes, or tree falls.

Dr Rooney, who spent three months in DR Congo and a month previously in South Sudan, said the living conditions were intense. But it's worth it, she says.

"We do the best we can and the people are very thankful," she said.

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POLITICS

Now you'll be able 'tweet' comments to council meetings

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

SOCIAL media has swept the globe, with both young and old now familiar with the likes of Twitter and Facebook.

But a few long-standing British traditions have remained untouched by technology.

Council meetings, for example, with the exception of some being webcast live for the public, have stayed virtually the same through the decades.

Members sat in the chambers, paper reports in front of them, and only the most hardy members of the public trotting along to sit through the sessions.

But under new guidance by communities and local government secretary Eric Pickles, all is about to change.

People watching meetings at Kent County Council (KCC) may soon be able to email or tweet comments and questions onto a message board during meetings, enhancing interaction between members and the people they serve.

It forms part of a shake-up by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) which looks to make social networking a bigger part in the reporting of council meetings.

In addition, Mr Pickles said bloggers, tweeters, Facebook and YouTube users, and individuals with their own websites, should be able to report at meetings. The new guidance also encourages local authorities to allow the media greater access to film certain parts of proceedings.

KCC has been pushing for better interaction from the public during parts of certain formal meetings via social media.

In a report to the selection and member services committee this week, KCC chiefs explained how the current webcast system has a facility called Cover It Live which could allow people watching online to ask questions or make comments through email or a tweet which would then be displayed.

"This would enable interaction during the meeting for the public via social media," said KCC.

"This facility is provided by Public-I [the current webcasting contractor] at no additional cost. Such a system would enable the sort of public interaction with the democratic process that some members wish to see introduced by KCC."

The new rules come after Mr Pickles warned that freedom of speech and independent journalism in local government was under attack by some councils, with people forbidden to film or report from meetings.

He said: "An independent local press and robust public scrutiny is essential for a healthy democracy: without the sunlight of transparency, the flowering of localism will wither."



RETAIL

New 'village' store

DEBENHAMS has been revealed as the department store on-board for the multi-million pound overhaul of Maidstone's Newnham Court Shopping Village.

Plans went on show this weekend to the public and local businesses.

The plans will see the existing site – home to Notcutts, near junction seven of the M20 – demolished and a major food, fashion and gardening complex in its place.

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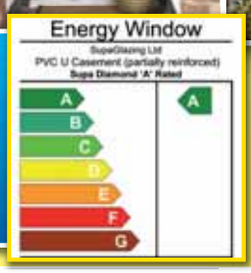
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CRIME

Jail for father and son who attempted to frame ex-partner for stabbing

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk



A FATHER and son who concocted a story about being stabbed in the leg by a furious ex-partner have been jailed for perverting the course of justice after their tale was exposed as a web of lies.

In October 2012, police were called to the home of 26-year-old Danny Tiplady at Tennyson Lodge, Maidstone, after he claimed he had been stabbed in the leg by his former girlfriend, who was at the address to collect some of her belongings.

Both Danny and his father Martin Tiplady, 47, of Kent Avenue, provided statements detailing that it was Danny Tiplady's ex-partner who had committed the offence.

She was subsequently arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm.

However, following forensic investigation, she was released without charge after it was established Danny Tiplady had actually stabbed himself.

The pair were then arrested on suspicion of attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Danny Tiplady pleaded guilty to the offence, and his father was found guilty following a trial at Maidstone Crown Court.

Martin Tiplady was sentenced to 15 months in prison, while Danny received a 10-month jail term.

Detective Sergeant Martin Davies said: "Mobile phone data from Danny Tiplady's phone supported the theory this was a pre-planned event. Perverting the course of justice is a serious offence and this has been shown in the custodial sentence."

COMPETITION

WIN! A £100 shopping spree to enjoy at Tesco



DO you fancy winning £100 off your next shop?

The Tesco Metro Store in West Malling is celebrating its recent makeover and has teamed up with the KoS to offer FIVE lucky readers the chance to win £100 in Tesco gift cards.

The store, on the High Street, is the perfect place to pick up all your everyday family essentials, with a wide selection of the finest fresh fruit and veg, dairy and grocery items.

It has a complete new look and has introduced hundreds of new lines, as well as a number of new departments and services. Improvements include fresh fish and meat counters, hot chicken and hot pie counters, a new salad bar plus a Grab and Go cheese deli.

The improved Tesco Metro re-launched on Monday, when store manager Newall Stratten and his team made a £500 donation to The Heart of Kent Hospice. The store also launched a four week Golden Ticket competition: each week one entry will be selected to win the latest Samsung Galaxy tablet.

So what are you waiting for? For your chance to win a fantastic £100 Tesco gift card simply answer the following question:

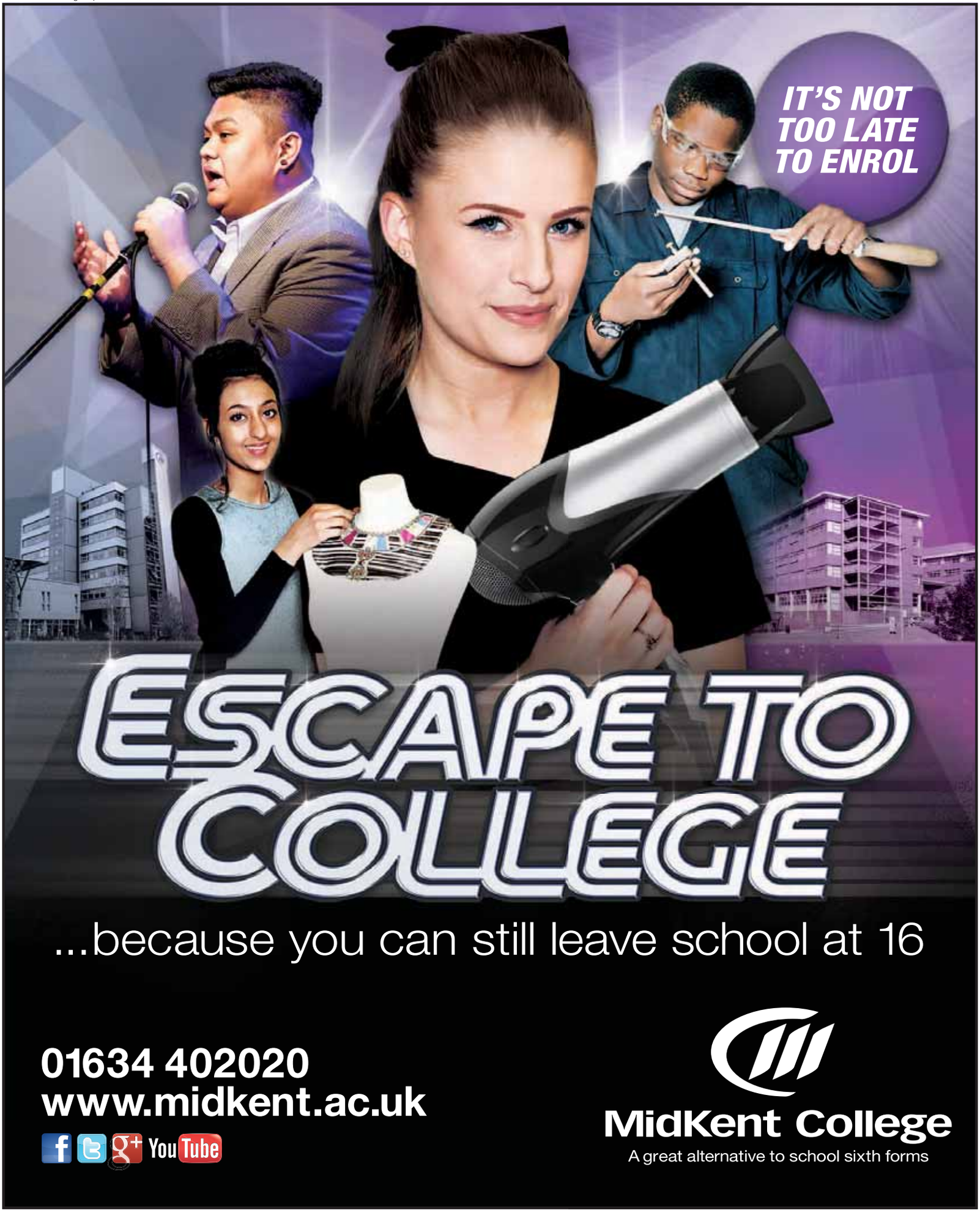
What is the famous Tesco motto?
A. Every Little Helps!
B. Super store for super shoppers!
C. Make mine the Metro!

To enter text KOS followed by METRO and your answer then your first name, surname address and postcode to 80058, e.g. KOS METRO C JOHN SMITH 2 THE STREET, TOWN, DV2 2GT. Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rate. Winners will be selected from all correct entries. The promoter's decision is final.

Usual terms and conditions apply. If you should enter after the closing deadline of September 17, 2013, your entry will not be valid, but you still may be charged. SMS services are provided by BBA Digital Helpline telephone 0844 3572403. Alternatively enter by post to METRO Competition, Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS.

This competition is not open to employees of Tesco Ltd or Archant KoS Media.




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LAW

Gills 'frustrated' after losing race discrimination tribunal

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

FOOTBALL club chiefs at Gillingham say they are "frustrated" after efforts to overturn a race discrimination tribunal ruling were thrown out.

Former Gills player Mark McCammon had been awarded nearly £70,000 after the tribunal ruled last year in his favour. He claimed the club had treated him differently on grounds of race.

But the club strenuously denied the allegations and lodged an appeal.

However, a hearing this week rejected the club's claims.

In a statement, the club said: "We are frustrated with the outcome of the appeal hearing. We accept the case was lost due to the technical wording of the dismissal letter and should have been worded more clearly.

"The club stands by its assertion, as supported by both hearings, that Mark McCammon was dismissed for the right reasons, following his aggressive conduct and behaviour in the manager's office, on the morning of November 30, 2010."

Mr McCammon, who is now a fitness trainer, said he was pleased at the verdict.

Chairman Paul Scally told KoS he didn't believe he should step down because of the ruling.

He said: "If every manger accused of victimisation in this country resigned we would have no leaders. Staff and fans are furious with him."



CASE IN POINT: Former player McCammon won his race case against Gills

CRIME

Trio charged after sexual assault

THREE men have been charged in connection with a sexual assault on two women in Priory Market Place, Dartford, last Sunday.

At around 2am it was reported two women were sexually assaulted and a mobile phone was stolen.

Three men were arrested by officers who were nearby.

Ionut Durice, 21, of no fixed address, Costica Ciapa, 24, of no fixed address and Florian Muresan, 27, from Dartford, have been remanded in custody to appear in court on September 20.

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News



GREENFIELD: The Green Party says development should be on brownfield, not unspoilt countryside

DEVELOPMENT

Green activists unveil rival plan to stop threat to precious countryside

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MAIDSTONE'S housing strategy has "descended into turmoil" claim critics, who this week attacked the risk to greenfield sites and the council's claims it has to build 15,000 new homes over the next 20 years.

Local authority chiefs hit back, however, insisting there is simply not enough brownfield sites available for development.

The Green Party says just 10,000 homes should be built and only brownfield sites used.

It claims it has identified enough brownfield sites in the borough to meet all future needs without having to build on any greenfield sites, and adds that new-builds need only be one- and two-bedroom homes rather than the large executive houses favoured by the Conservatives.

Green spokesman Stuart Jeffery said: "Our report uses population forecasts from Kent County Council which clearly demonstrate the town needs around 10,000 more homes over the next 20 years, a figure far lower than the hyped up one touted by the Conservative administration.

"Not only do we know fewer homes are needed but we have demonstrated that there is a need for smaller, more affordable homes in the future rather than the swathes of mansions being proposed by the Conservatives.

"By building affordable homes close to the town centre, residents will have the benefit of easy access to public transport, jobs and shops. There will be less need for people to own a car, reducing the congestion building out of town would bring us."

The party suggests its report, called Maidstone House Needs 2013 to 2031, "identifies a range of sites close to the town centre that can be converted to providing enough homes for people in the future without the need for building on farm and woodland".

But the authority disagrees and sticks by its original plans.

A spokesman said: "A working figure of 14,800 dwellings was agreed by the cabinet in March based on a population forecast. The working target is based on the latest demographic forecasts, updated by Kent County Council, taking account of Department for Communities and Local Government household projections released in November 2010.

"This working figure has been independently verified as a good starting point, but a lot more work needs to be done before it can be converted into an actual housing target.

"Landowners, developers and others put forward numerous greenfield sites to accommodate some of this expected development, but it is always the priority of Maidstone Borough Council to allocate brownfield sites first. This is why we have pro-actively engaged with landowners in brownfield locations to try and bring redundant and vacant land forward for development.

"In the five years 2007 to 2012, 87 per cent of housing development was on brownfield sites – such is our commitment to this approach.

"No decisions have been made about any sites and our local plan will include strong policies to protect our countryside. Every site will be considered for sustainable location, policy constraints, and physical and infrastructure constraints such as ecology, highways issues, access to services, flood risk, landscape, heritage impacts and adjacent uses.

"These sites will then be put out to public consultation before being considered by the council in summer 2014.

"This pro-active approach means we will be able to protect important countryside from unsuitable housing and co-ordinate the infrastructure that new housing needs."

JUST WHAT ARE...

Brownfield sites

Land previously used for commercial or industrial purposes. In other words, already developed on.

Greenfield sites

Undeveloped land in towns or rural areas either used for agriculture, landscape design, or left to naturally evolve. It has no special protection but its erosion can cause deep divisions within communities and spoil what makes certain areas so special.

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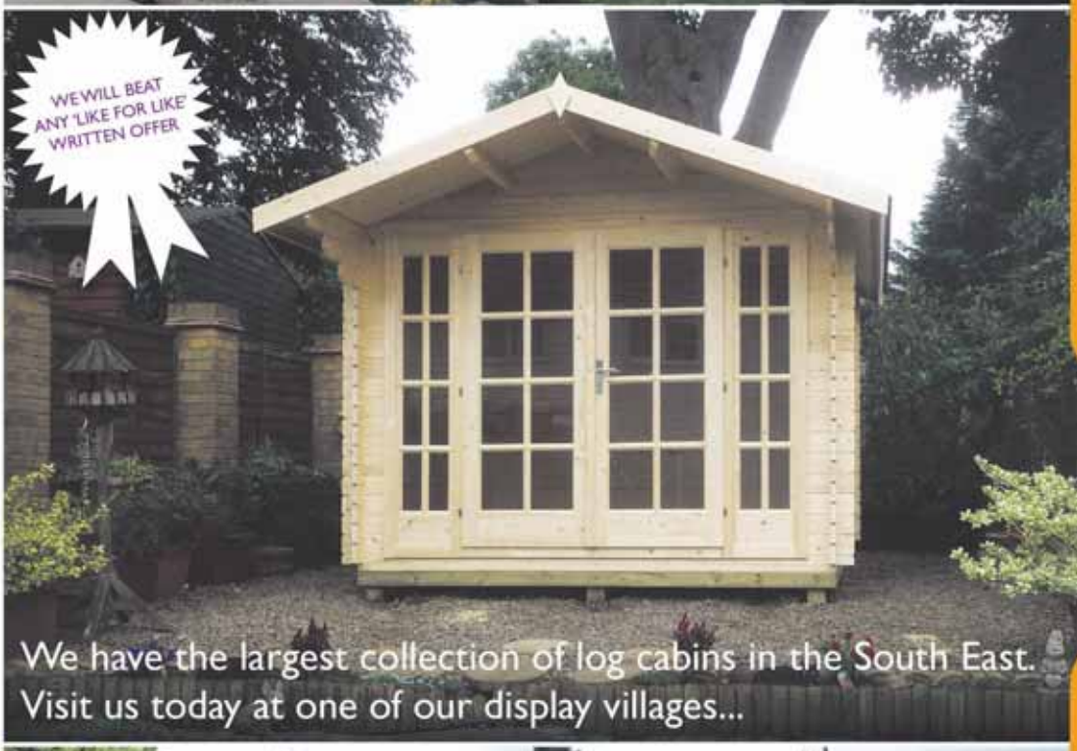
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KENT **REMEMBERED**



Cemetery serves up a Wimbledon hero and other fascinating folk

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

RAMSGATE Cemetery and Andy Murray may have little in common – except for what is left of one of the many graves that lie within its borders.

Because among the many bodies laid to rest at the site, is that of Spencer Gore – the winner of the very first Wimbledon tennis championships

All the more remarkable, perhaps, is that despite his success, he wasn't even very keen on the sport in which he excelled.

A new book has unearthed the bizarre, emotional and even darkly amusing tales about those who made their final resting place the cemetery.

Author Michael Hunt runs a bookshop in the town and has long been curious about those who find their final resting place in the town's graveyard since it opened in 1871.

He told us his new book Telling Tales: Encounters in Ramsgate Cemetery is chock full of the somewhat off-beat.

He said: "The history of a cemetery doesn't promise many laughs.

"However, the dialogue format of Telling Tales serves not only to link the stories of the cemetery's occupants but also allows an examination of the wider subject of death: its philosophical significance, the ceremony accorded it and the black humour to which it can give rise.

"The book describes how and why the cemetery was established and outlines the lives of some of those buried there.



STORIES: Michael Hunt digs into the unusual stories of the people buried in Ramsgate Cemetery, including that of Wimbledon winner Spencer Gore

"These include James Woodward who taught sea-lions to hunt submarines and Spencer Gore, a Wimbledon champion who didn't like tennis.

"Then there is Alderman William Vincent Green, a builder and inventor, an inventive but contentious man who regularly poured scorn upon political opponents in the letter pages of the local press.

"In a classic piece of euphemistic double-speak voiced within hours of his death, the Thanet Advertiser described how the late gentleman had been 'admired for his manly outspokenness by all those with whom on local administrative matters he sometimes found himself unable perfectly to agree'."

But it also serves as a reminder of the realities of Victorian life and death.

Mr Hunt, who also wrote the books A History of Ramsgate Harbour and A History of the Ramsgate Fishing Industry, said: "I was amazed to find five out of the first seven burials conducted in the new cemetery were of infants.

"No less tragic was the accidental killing of a young seaman by his brother, the deaths of local civilians to bombardment in two world wars, and the cavalier attitude to work and safety issues a century and a half ago."

There was even a weird coincidence while researching the graves.

The writer explained: "On the night of March 10, while I was writing about the 1881 death of Howard Primrose Fraser and the fall of the masts of the wrecked Indian Chief ship, one of the cemetery's many pine trees, a particularly tall and heavy example, was uprooted during high winds and fell within a few yards of Fraser's grave."

And then there are the three Canadian Benoit brothers. Joseph was tragically killed through an accidental rifle shot by John. Victor later died from a mine explosion.

"All three were serving on Admiralty drifters during Word War One."

He reveals even the entrance was once controversial. It is in Cecilia Road, but that was once called Cemetery Road; the name was changed following residents' objections.

■ **Telling Tales by Michael Hunt costs £8.99 and is out this month.**



OPINION

Vile trade needs inspection

RSPCA chief executive **Gavin Grant** speaks out on Government's lack of support in helping check welfare of animals sent for export...

KENT is the home of the dire and cruel trade of live animal exports.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of animals – some as young as two-weeks-old – are shipped to Europe.

Many suffer from stress, exhaustion and thirst – some even die on the journey.

Thanet District Council, which owns Ramsgate port, asked RSPCA to observe what was going on and intervene if animals were suffering.

My inspectors did just that.

We found animals with injuries, defective watering and ventilation systems on trucks, and saw them forced to set sail in a storm.

Now the trade has moved to Dover – making it the main English ferry port to facilitate this trade. Despite the lack of appropriate facilities or inspections, thousands of animals are shipped through it.

They are loaded in crowded trucks and then on to an unsuitable ferry originally built as a river tank carrier.

Yet Dover Harbour Board has refused our request to have RSPCA inspectors at the port.

When Kent MPs joined the RSPCA, Compassion in World Farming and local resident groups in speaking for the animals welfare, the Government's response was to say all loading of animals would be supervised at the start of the journey.

However, just this week a lorry full of sheep bound for the Continent was turned away from the Port of Dover, after four animal health officials boarded a lorry following concerns about an "exceptional" smell.

Its final destination has not yet been confirmed by the Government's animal health officials, AHVLA, but it is thought the sheep were sent back to their original place of loading, which could have been as far as Northamptonshire.

It was a warm day and the animals may have become ill or injured as they travelled in peak-time traffic for many hours.

If that lorry had not been checked, those animals could have sailed from Dover and started their long journey to Europe.

It is totally unacceptable that the RSPCA is being prevented from checking the welfare of all animals involved in this needless trade.

This latest incident comes just one week before the first anniversary of the tragedy at Ramsgate where 44 sheep died.

This matter is now the subject of a court case taken against the shippers by Kent County Council.

On Thursday, September 12, we will be laying a floral tribute remembering those sheep which lost their lives and the millions of farm animals involved in long distance live transport.



"This is the 21st century and no place for shipping live animals to their deaths

We will also be using the occasion to thank Thanet District Council and the local residents who spoke out against this cruel and unnecessary trade.

So far Dover Harbour Board has had more than 15,000 emails calling for the RSPCA to be let into the port.

Perhaps now they will listen.

This is the 21st century and there is no place for shipping live animals to their death, often without stunning, in abattoirs across the Continent.

It is time we ended the trade.

The animals cannot speak for themselves, but please speak for them by adding your voice to local MPs', councillors' and citizens' demands that the RSPCA are let into Dover port.

KOS COMMENT

Cut the speed to avoid repeat of road carnage

IF THERE is any good to come from the scenes of carnage on our roads this week – and the 130-car pile-up in Sheppey was just one of a number of horrific incidents – it is surely that we must all re-examine the manner in which we drive.

The apparent popularity in a belief we should all be able to drive as fast as we want, where we want, is a recipe for nothing other disaster.

We have a responsibility on the roads to act in a manner which puts no other motorist at danger; or indeed ourselves.

We all know how we should drive in foggy conditions, but some continue to believe they know better. That attitude must change to ensure we don't see a repeat of this week's carnage.

Relief of first week over

IF YOU spot some rather exuberant children in your neighbourhood this weekend, cut them some slack.

Because there can be no better feeling of relief than the end of the first week at a new school; assuming of course it all went smoothly. Here's hoping the enthusiasm continues.



Feedback

Letters/emails/twitter



Lavender field in Shoreham by Jack Casement from Horsmonden

Images of Kent

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Beach claims don't add up

I FOUND your article about the dispute over the ownership of Whitstable's beach (KOS, last weekend) fascinating.

I love Whitstable and it is my pleasure to go there when the tide and weather are right to swim and, on a Tuesday, 'listen to the jazz go down' courtesy of Burt Butler and co.

I know too little to comment on the rights and wrongs of the dispute, but I worked in the town in the 1980s when the beach was being reclaimed from the sea and noticed the Greens took over the business in 1978, and acquired the parts of the beach they own then.

By the mid-80s very little of the beach remained, and what is there now is a result of the extensive work carried out, I presume, by contractors hired by Canterbury City Council and paid for by taxpayers.

I'm no lawyer, but it seems to me the Greens' claim to own part of the beach is tenuous to say the least.

Ian Macmillan, Ash

Benefits from real hardship

REGARDING your article on children in poverty (KOS, 25/8); perhaps I am missing something but how does this happen in 2013?

I am aged 76, my mother and father brought up four of us, myself being the eldest.

My sister was born with Down's syndrome, Dad worked in a local factory and Mum took care of us.

There were no benefits dished out and Mum gave us simple meals. My clothing was handed down to my younger brother.

We slept in warm beds with clean linen and I can tell you I had a wonderful childhood. Happy days and fond memories.

There were no holidays or anything of value in the home, but we grew up to value and respect everything we had and the people we knew.

The question is, why can't people manage today?

B Spackman, Erith

Put a cork in it please, sir

CONSIDERING the makers of Chapel Down wine aren't "too concerned about having to compete with their Kent counterparts", I find it strange the company's chief executive officer, Frazer Thompson, feels it necessary to slag off Shepherd Neame (KOS, 25/8).

After criticising the Faversham company's beer, Frazer is quoted as saying: "I don't really feel we are competing with Shepherd Neame who are predominantly a pub owner rather than a brewer."

As someone who has studied brewing history, both nationwide and particularly in Kent, I beg to differ.

While it is certainly true that Sheps has a large pub portfolio in the south east – 360 or so properties at the last count – if Mr Frazer were to walk into any of these pubs he would discover that almost all of the beer available was brewed by... wait for it... Shepherd Neame.

The Kent company, while a relatively small player in the UK market, remains one of Britain's largest regional brewers. What is more, they have remained loyal to Faversham, and for that matter the county, throughout their entire 300-plus-year history.

I recently went on the Shepherd Neame brewery tour and Mr Frazer might like to do the same. It was not only an enjoyable experience – our guide was enthusiastic and very knowledgable, the beer tasting was most enjoyable – but one which showed that while Sheps do turn out their fair share of nondescript bland beer – I wouldn't wash my feet in Oranjeboom for instance – they also produce a dizzying array of traditional ales that extend much further than the mainstream comforts of Masterbrew and Spitfire.

Try their IPA, Mr Frazer, or the bottle conditioned 1698, and then see whether you feel entitled to dismiss the company so offhand as a brewer.

William Aldwych O'Brien, Rochester

Stewing over hospital food

ONCE again the argument over hospital food has reared its ugly head (KoS, last week).

I worked in hospital catering for more than 30 years and have seen the decline of the food over the years.

One thing I have noticed is no-one actually asks 'why is the food so bad?'. Is it because proper catering staff are not being employed, or that there isn't enough funding?

We need to get to the bottom of this once and for all.

In my early days, all the food was fresh. We had our own butcher's shop, vegetables were fresh, not pre-packed or frozen, we made our own pies with homemade pastry. Fish was fresh and chips were made with real potatoes.

One of the declines in the standard of the food was when older staff left or retired and younger people were brought in; some not property qualified.

Another problem was when catering went out to private companies who only wanted to make a profit.

It is said it costs about £8.60 to feed a patient for a day. This is a pretty good sum of money remembering the hospital only has to pay for the raw material, cook it, pay for administration and staff. They don't have to make a profit.

It needs someone with hospital catering experience to sort out what should be done.

Peter Nassan, Chatham

Trifling view of councillor

IT WAS worrying to read the intolerant and dogmatic letter from Thanet councillor John Worrow in last weekend's paper – and his grand title of 'lead for equality and inclusion at Thanet District Council'.

Concerns for the laws of other countries should not be a matter for local government.

The duty of local government is to provide traditional services to the public; people's sexual orientation is irrevelent to this local function.

To be so preoccupied with a tiny number of people from Thanet who may choose to go to Russia for the Winter Olympic Games is a nonsense and not a matter which should pre-occupy local councillors.

Graham Wanstall, Dover

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NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

SUSIE, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why.**Tel: No. 0905 002 1957 Box 407321**

LISA blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54 for fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877**

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773**

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

HAPPY young looking lady, 62, likes socialising, conversation, seeking nice man to share good times with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407383**

AMANDA 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315**

NATASHA is a naughty 22yr old lady seeking no strings discreet fun with older man. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366033**

SUE 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767**

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071**

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751**

SUSAN seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779**

SLIM N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male companion, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707**



GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTM n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799**

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTM loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787**

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

MALE 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTM lady. Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295**

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761**

JACQUELINE 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentleman's company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533**

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421**

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SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275**

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101**

GEORGINA widow, WLTM gent, 60-80 with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481**

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659**

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353**

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

Men Seeking

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TALL friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Croydon. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147**

TALL slim male, early 40's, seeks loving female, 29-39 to share the nice things in life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407065**

CANTERBURY white mature male, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build black/white/Asian/oriental female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

ANTHONY 48, athletic, enjoys country walks, seeks youthful female for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407355**

RETIRED male, 66, 6ft 2ins, easy going, GSOH, loyal, loves pets, meals out, life, seeks lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407317**

71YR old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277**

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

DEBBIE 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

CANTERBURY sign language interpreter 58, 5ft 10ins, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697**

BLACK male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221**

MEDWAY male, 60's, solvent, seeks attractive lady, 55-65, GSOH to wine, dine and share the good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405429**

DISCREET kind man, 48, gentle, loving, genuine, seeking lady, Whitstable. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406439**

RICHARD divorced, 61, N/S, likes classic cars, looking to meet nice lady for meals out, days out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406349**

TALL friendly, light hearted, single, 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR with mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405557**

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455**

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211**

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717**

FIT fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857**

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

VIC mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085**

CHRIS from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTM N/S female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079**

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097**

BRIAN 6ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, brown hair, fun loving, happy go lucky, honest, seeks special lady for fun and to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406333**

MIKE 39, 6ft 7ins, large build, blue eyes, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406321**

DEREK Croydon area, 52, self employed, seeks female for 1-2-1 relationship, likes meals out, places of interest, holidays. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406559**

OUTGOING professional, fun loving, entertaining male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519**

35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941**

ACTIVE 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc., WLTM n/s female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671**

KEVIN 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087**

FUN fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well built female for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

5FT 7ins white male, 50, N/S, looking to settle down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401897**

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537**

THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729**

MICHAEL slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373**

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013**

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTM female for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201**

GARDENER 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

Gay Seeking

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BI guy, CD, 57, OHAC, seeking similar for mutual fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404907**

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

BI male, senior, clean shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393**

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249**

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147**

BI guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093**

RON 60, overweight, passive, seeking active guy for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407437**

TV/BI CD, seeks feminine male with similar interests for discreet daytime meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406735**

PETER looking for male, 30-60 for casual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406049**

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male of similar age for occasional meetings and mutual interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405863**

Friendship

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621**

STRAIGHT male, 40, Medway, seeks sports buddies into table tennis, golf, snooker and pool. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405417**

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From the Comedy Cellar to Craggy Island and beyond

Having captured our attention as Father Dougal, **Ardal O'Hanlon** is still making us laugh as his latest show goes on tour

By **GREG MILES**

AS one of Ireland's best-loved comics, Ardal O'Hanlon already has a weight on his shoulders.

Throw in his cult status as Father Dougal in Channel 4 comedy Father Ted and you are reaching ever-higher climbs.

Such pressures are nothing new for the 47-year-old, who is touring with a new stand-up show that is coming to Canterbury this week.

It is all part of a career that has seen him found one of Ireland's top comedy clubs and claim the prize for Craggy Island's most naïve priest in Father Ted and that is now riding the burgeoning demand for comedy around the globe.

He also had a mixed experience on his first trip to Canterbury 19 years ago.

"I've been down a few times over the years – the last time was probably in 2010. That was the last time I did a tour on this scale," he said.

"I do remember doing something at the university in Canterbury in 1994 and my coat got stolen from my car. I distinctly remember that. I only bought it in a charity shop for £1, so I wasn't too upset."

When it comes to his show, the man born in Carrickmacross in County Monaghan is keeping things simple, with themes plucked from his own life.

"The starting point is always just to be funny," he said. "The main question I'm asking is why is someone like me doing comedy after all these years.

'I try to keep it fairly light, but it's always nice to wrong-foot an audience'

"I talk about my childhood, my Catholic upbringing. I talk about role models, sports, and politics a bit. It's silly, I try to keep it fairly light, but it's always nice to wrong-foot an audience."

O'Hanlon's drive for perfection has seen the show progress from the notebook to the stage at a slow rate.

"When you're developing material, you go to clubs and it takes me that long to develop the material and refine it," he said.

"First of all, I do get sidetracked by other jobs and a few TV things, and that eats into your time. I've always been pretty neurotic about getting it right.

"It's an extension of your own personality, wanting to get it right. That's why I tend to take my time and not trot out a show every year that I wasn't happy with.

"I think it's like anything – if you want to do it well, then you have to put the hours in. And it's much more satisfying doing a show you're happy with.

"I've just spent time in Edinburgh – it really galvanises you. It all helps. I've done quite a few previews in the summer. You might take your notes on stage with you – the audience know what's going on and play along with it.

"With YouTube and everything now, it's harder to dive into little clubs and mess around. Otherwise it could turn up somewhere later on, which could be quite embarrassing."

Comedy was not an obvious choice for the son of a politician and doctor. Starting out with no experience whatsoever, he and friends Barry Murphy, Kevin Gildea and Dermot Carmody founded the now-legendary Comedy Cellar in Dublin in the late 1980s.

It has since become a breeding ground for some of the country's best-known comics.

"It was a bit unusual to go into comedy," he said. "I can't really explain it. I left college at a time when there were very few jobs around. I had been debating at college and enjoyed that. We set up a club and mucked about and found our voice after a while. It seemed a good way to live your life.

"There are a lot of household names in Britain that started out there.

"I always wanted to write and doodled as a kid. I knew early on I didn't want to do what my parents wanted me to do. I was always drawn to the arts in some way and stand-up was a good beginning to take off. I'm very attracted to that life."

'It's like anything – if you want to do it well, you have to put the hours in'

Finding his voice led to a Hackney Empire New Act Of The Year award in 1994 as his deadpan wit caught on. It also meant a departure from the stages of clubs on the touring scene of the British Isles for what became a cult classic – Father Ted.

The television hit is a topic impossible to avoid when speaking to the modest O'Hanlon, despite the comic having shied away from the role in the aftermath of the show's demise.

"I went to London to an audition and I got it, to my surprise, and it changed everything," he said.

"I had no idea how successful it would be. I knew the writers were subversive and had been working on TV. I got the first script and read it and thought it was funny, but no one laughed when I did it.

"I definitely thought it might be a minor cult hit at best. I had absolutely no idea it was going to be such a mainstream success."

As the dim-witted Father Dougal on Craggy Island, O'Hanlon starred alongside Dermot Morgan (Father Ted) and

Continued on page 39



PERFECTIONIST: Ardal O'Hanlon has taken his time making sure that his latest show is just right

Weekend

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Making the most of life after Father Ted

Continued from page 37

the mischievous drunk Frank Kelly (Father Jack Hackett). With the show full of memorable catchphrases from the hapless Dougal, it is no wonder that O'Hanlon attracted attention following its end in 1998, after which Morgan died from a heart attack at the age of just 45.

"I have really embraced it in recent years," he said. "There might have been a few years when it reached a fever pitch and I slightly recoiled from it. I'm conscious it's popular and enduring and people love it.

"If I can brighten up people's day by responding favourably, then I will do that. It's never dominated my day. The day it finished, I was determined to move on and do other stuff. I love it and my kids watch it."

His role as the lead character George Monday/Thermoman in My Hero (2000-5) saw him cast as a naïve super-hero from another planet living

'I've never been one of those guys to sit and wait for the phone to ring. It's better to do your own thing'

in suburbia. After that, he decided to separate himself from comedy by moving into theatre.

"The attention never really bothered me that much because the reality is I never expected a career in telly at all," he said. "Yes, there was a certain amount of pigeonholing involved, but it's swings and roundabouts.

"In recent years I think enough time has elapsed from Father Ted and My Hero. It was a conscious decision to do theatre – you get more opportunity. It's something I have enjoyed a lot.

"Nothing has changed in my day-to-day routine: I get up, go to my notebook and try to come up with funny stuff. I've never been one of those guys to sit and wait for the phone to ring. It's better to get your head down and get on with your own thing."

When O'Hanlon embarks on his new tour this autumn, his new television show will also be hitting the nation's screens on Channel 4.

London Irish sees O'Hanlon playing the father of an Irish family living in the capital: "It's quite 'out there'. I play a nice part, the dad of two of the main characters. It's about a bunch of young people living it large in London.

"I think it's going to get a lot of reaction for the right and wrong reasons. I think it's provocative – I don't think the writers and actors will be fazed by that. But it's one of those sitcoms that will receive flak for various reasons."

Since his young beginnings in Ireland almost 30 years ago, stand-up comedy has gone on to huge popularity, a thirst for which is beginning to build up pace overseas.

"When I started out in the 90s, the club scene was really gloomy," he said. "It was new and taking off. In the intervening years, it's been incredible. There's been an explosion – it's completely superseded live music.

"The fact stand-up has not just exploded in the UK means I can go to America, the Far East and Australia. I'm doing Russia and Estonia. It's not that they know me, but they've developed this huge appetite for stand-up comedy. That's gone throughout Europe. There are a lot of Scandinavian and German comedians, too."

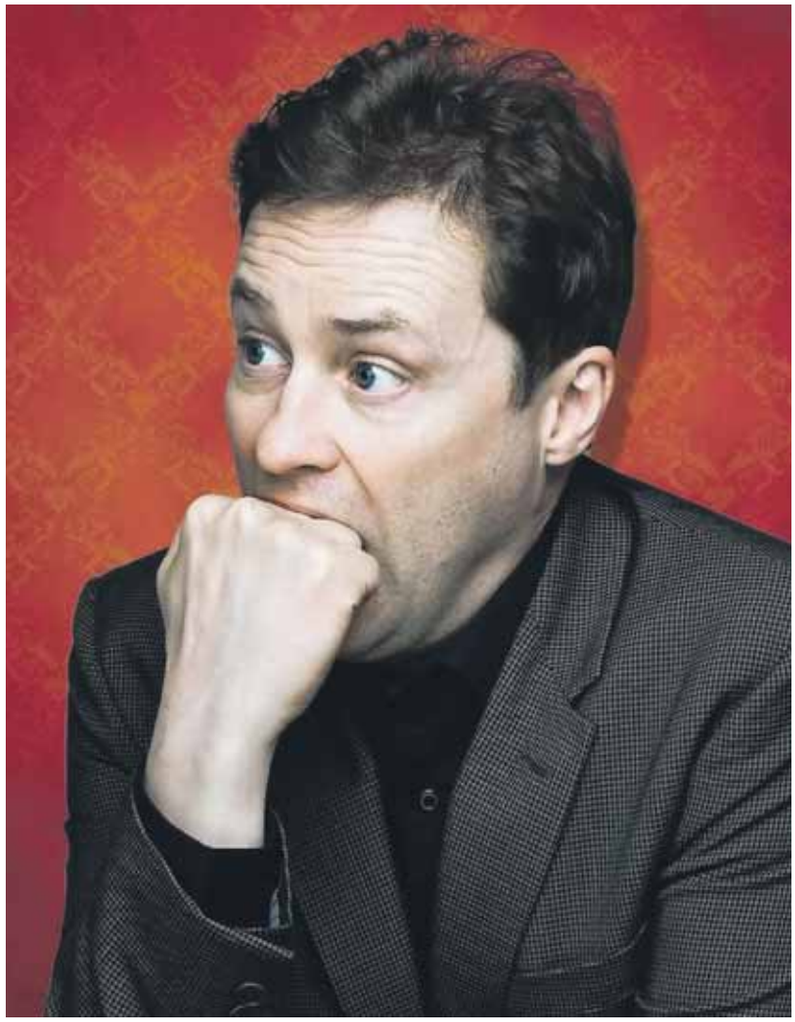
With his considerable experience behind him, O'Hanlon admits the future may see him take on new paths, not necessarily on the screen but more as the brains behind new projects – not that anything is planned.

There are no plans to follow in the footsteps of his politician father.

"I don't think I would have the discipline for that and I don't have the ideology," he said. "I'm more comfortable on the fence sneering. I don't believe in anything enough.

"I've seen the life of a politician, too. It's a ridiculous job, the hours they put in and the idealisms they have. I don't think politics is for me. As I get older I will have the capacity to take on bigger projects and concentrate on one thing."

■ **Ardal O'Hanlon is at The Marlowe Studio on Friday, September 13. Tickets for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, are priced at £20. To book, visit www.marlowetheatre.com or phone 01227 787787.**



THE BITE STUFF: Ardal O'Hanlon is riding the wave of stand-up's popularity with international tours

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Festival salutes the 400th anniversary of pioneer who was original rising son

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THE celebration of Gillingham's most famous son, Will Adams, this year takes on a special resonance.

It was 400 years ago that the Medway man-turned-samurai laid the foundations of trade between Japan and England.

The milestone has sparked events across Japan, where Adams is a renowned figure, with his statues adorning two cities.

Gillingham's residents will have a chance to celebrate his achievements themselves at the Will Adams Festival in Gillingham Park on Saturday, September 14.

After growing up in the town, Adams went to sea and sailed to the Far East aboard the Hoop, a Dutch-registered ship, in 1598, while Queen Elizabeth I was on the throne, and is believed to be the first Englishman to have reached Japan.

He began trading and helped set up cultural relations between the two countries in 1613 and was eventually made a samurai, something that inspired the 1980s TV series Shogun starring Richard Chamberlain.

For the last decade or so, thousands of people have been attending the free festival in Medway celebrating Adams's life.

Verne Sanderson, festival operations manager, said: "One of the fascinating things for me about it is that in Japan they hold Will Adams festivals.



TURNING JAPANESE: The Will Adams Festival

"It is only fitting therefore that we celebrate him where he was born and Christened.

"We have been running our festival for the last dozen or so years and it is this year in its fifth year in Gillingham Park. It has grown over time as people start to understand about his life.

"There are things around the town like the Will Adams roundabout and the Will Adams pub, but there are still some people who don't understand who he was."

The event celebrates the different stages of Adams's life – from his upbringing in Tudor England, with cookery demonstrations and coin-making on display, to his time at sea, with involvement from maritime organisations, and his time in Japan, which will be marked by tea ceremonies and taiko drumming.

The festival also nods towards contemporary Japan, with Wii games as well as the more traditional board games for youngsters to enjoy.

There will be martial arts, reiki treatments and origami lessons.

The Adams story will also be brought to life by local actor Tony Brown, who will be taking on his character and retelling his tale twice on the day.

The 2013 event is an important milestone in the history of England and Japan as it marks the 400th anniversary of the start of international relations between the nations.

That was brought about because of the work that Adams was carrying out in his time on foreign soil.

The free event runs from 11am-4.30pm on Saturday, September 14, in Gillingham Park. There is no on-site parking.

For more information about events celebrating the 400th anniversary of British and Japanese relations, visit www.japan400.com.

Daniel continues his rise up comedy ladder with seaside stand-up

YOUNG comic Daniel Sloss is bringing his latest show to Folkestone this autumn.

The 22-year-old has been performing stand-up for six years, having started aged 16.

He has appeared on TV's Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow, 8 Out of 10 Cats, Rob Brydon Show and Jason Manford's Comedy Rocks. He has also had his own BBC show The Adventures Of Daniel, at the age of 19.



In August 2008, Sloss became one of the youngest finalists in the UK's premiere national comedy competition So You Think You're Funny?

His first solo show, Teenage Kicks, premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2009, sold out and transferred to London for his debut at the prestigious Soho Theatre, where he became the youngest-ever stand-up to perform solo both at the theatre and in the West End.

That year he also made his national television debut as the first stand-up to perform on Channel 4's Paul O'Grady Show. In 2010, his new solo show My Generation also sold out its entire season. His 2011 show The Joker was likewise a hit, selling out its four-week run.

He will be at Quarterhouse in Folkestone on Friday, October 4. Tickets, priced at £13.50, are available at www.quarterhouse.co.uk or by phoning 01303 858500.







STARS: CJ de Mooi and Ewen Macintosh are to appear in the musical Geek!

Geek! Yes, you! Here's a show to change your life

EVER felt like a teenage outcast? Sidelined by the popular kids? You just want to be loved, admired and crazy beautiful?

Well, get over yourself because it ain't gonna happen!

However, a musical coming to Ramsgate's Granville Theatre might offer some solace in what you laughably call your life.

Geek! is a musical from the quill of Scott Morgan. Set in a west coast American high school, with outrageous characters, fantastic songs and just the teensiest bit of innuendo, the production is evidence that the geek shall inherit the Earth.

CJ de Mooi, who you might know from Eggheads, is producing and appearing in the show, alongside Ewen Macintosh (Keith from The Office) and a strong cast directed by Porl Matthews and Jamie Chapman Dixon.

This is a production with a funny score and script – it would be a geek tragedy to miss it! Be aware, however, that it contains language and sexual references not suitable for younger audiences – parental guidance is advised.

Geek! is at the Granville Theatre on Thursday and Friday, September 19-20, at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £15, or £14 for Friends. Group discounts are available.

Phone the box office on 01843 591750 for more information and to book.

Comedy club's capital turn

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

COMEDY is in a funny period of transition at this moment in time.

With more demand than ever for comedians to perform at all manner of events and characters finding fame on TV, it is having knock-on effects lower down the food chain for up-and-coming promoters.

Canterbury's Chatback Comedy at the Parrot pub is in its third season and one of those making the most of the trend.

Created by University of Kent graduates Lucy Danser and Sam Gardner, it has been unearthing gems from the capital and bringing them to a Kent audience.

Now Danser and new partner Faith Austen, who has come on board as Gardner is taking up teaching, are embarking on a new project in London.

Later this month they are launching Stand-up & Slam! at the Comedy Cafe in Shoreditch and they will be repeating it in Canterbury.

The idea of the show is that two teams of poets and comedians do battle, with the winner chosen by the loudest audience applause.

"It all started with going to comedy and poetry nights at university," said Danser. "There are a lot of crossovers between comedy and poetry.

"Comedic audiences can be a bit snobbish about poetry, but poetry audiences think comedy is a poor man's poetry. We started going to each others' nights and saw the crossovers, so we decided to do a mixed bill.



LAUGHS: Nish Kumar headlines this week

"For example, Phill Jupitus started out with his character Porky the Poet, which he still does, but he's big as a comedian.

"It's the first time we have moved something to London, and we have always wanted to. But there wasn't any point in us running the same night that is in Canterbury because it would not be anything substantially different to what is already on offer there."

After a run of sell-out shows, their regular night at the Parrot returns on Thursday, with Nish Kumar headlining and Tom Goodliffe and Paul Sweeney featuring.

Danser is hopeful that Chatback has a long future in the city.

"Providing we can make it work, we would like to stay in Canterbury. There is a reason we started it there. It's a very different audience to London. In London you have so much going on, but in Canterbury the audience is there just to see comedy and who's up and coming."

Danser recently spent time at the Edinburgh Festival on the look-out for talent to come to the Parrot, and with the thirst for comedy never greater there is plenty from which to choose.

"Everybody wants a comedian – companies like Google and Facebook will pay £3,000 for a night, where smaller places would pay hundreds," she said.

"The smaller venues do benefit, though, as they get all the people constantly preparing for television, testing their new material. It's the only place they can do it.

"We get Milton Jones coming in, often trying out his pages of jokes before he goes on Mock the Week."

Chatback Comedy is live at the Parrot pub in Church Lane, Canterbury, on Thursday, September 12. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm. Tickets are £8, or £7 for concessions. Visit www.chatbackcomedy.com to find out more.

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Or visit our website for further details **www.princesgolfclub.co.uk**

The skies will light up for model show

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

A SPECTACULAR light show featuring models, hot-air balloons and aeroplanes laden with pyrotechnics will be illuminating Headcorn aerodrome next weekend.

The Southern Model Show will set the sky ablaze with a dazzling display that has taken a huge amount of planning by the organisers.

The finale of both the Saturday and Sunday will see model planes fitted with LED lights, 'full-size' planes setting off fireworks and hot-air balloons lighting up the scene, all synchronised to music.

The display involves a double-edged challenge, with the lights not only having to stay in time with the music but also, more crucially, the balloons needing to avoid each other in the skies above the aerodrome, where thousands of visitors will be watching.

Event director Colin Hitchens is looking forward to seeing the hard work come together.

"It's going to be very different," he said. "I think we're the only people in the country doing something like this.

"I used the pyrotechnic plane a couple of weeks ago at Chris Evans's CarFest, where 20,000 people saw it.

"We have to make sure we have the lateral and vertical separation between things as they are all flying at the same time, and to time it with the balloons, which take time to prepare."

There will be some 40 balloons on display, with 10 of those tethered and the remainder lifting off from the site.

However, the models set to dominate the event are, ironically, boats.

A large pool has been constructed for boats to take to the water, including battleships from Portsmouth and boats from event charity the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

There will also be a smaller pool for youngsters to take up the controls.

Another highlight will be the appearance of a full-size Extra 300 acrobatics plane alongside a two-thirds-scale model of the same machine.

The evening display will be starting at about 7.40pm.

The show is on Saturday and Sunday, September 14-15, with limited camping available from Friday 13.



■ Gates open at 10am on Saturday and Sunday, September 14-15.

Online discounted tickets are available at £10 per adult, £8 per child or £30 for a family ticket (2+2).

Two-day tickets are available from £14 for a child, £18 for an adult and £52 for a family.

Overnight camping is available from Friday 13 at the Headcorn aerodrome site from £8 per night.

You can book tickets and camping at www.heritage-events.co.uk.

National Trust lines up some great walks



MAGICAL: Unearth the secrets of Scotney Castle

SOME of Kent's most secret places and stories will be revealed during the National Trust's Great British Walk 2013.

A two-month festival, the Great British Walk encourages everyone to explore the outdoors and discover secret places that can only be discovered on foot at National Trust sites.

Walks range from those chosen by the public to walks hand-picked by National Trust experts.

Of the land the trust looks after in Kent, 389 hectares is always open to the public and 1,421ha is within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Almost five miles of the county's coastline is owned by the trust.

Within these areas, the Great British Walk has uncovered some of the region's most hidden vistas, stories and places, including a former mock Tudor mansion destroyed by a bomb in the Second World War, a bat tower and a well built by Octavia Hill... all at Emmetts Garden.

You can also discover man-made ponds possibly of Roman origin at Ightham Mote, or hop-pickers' huts from the country's only intensive hop farm, which supplies Scotney Ale, and even one of the quirkiest ice houses in England at Scotney Castle.

Youngsters might want to visit the bomb crater at Chartwell, now home to a play area complete with climbing ropes.

This year's Great British Walk runs until Tuesday, November 3, and is designed to encourage everyone from young families to seasoned ramblers to explore the outdoors.

Alex Tarling, of the National Trust, said: "Planning your walk is easy – download a walk or submit your own favourite on the online map and join the thousands of others celebrating the Great British Walk with us this autumn."

You can share your walking pictures on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook using #GBwalk. See www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greatbritishwalk for more details.

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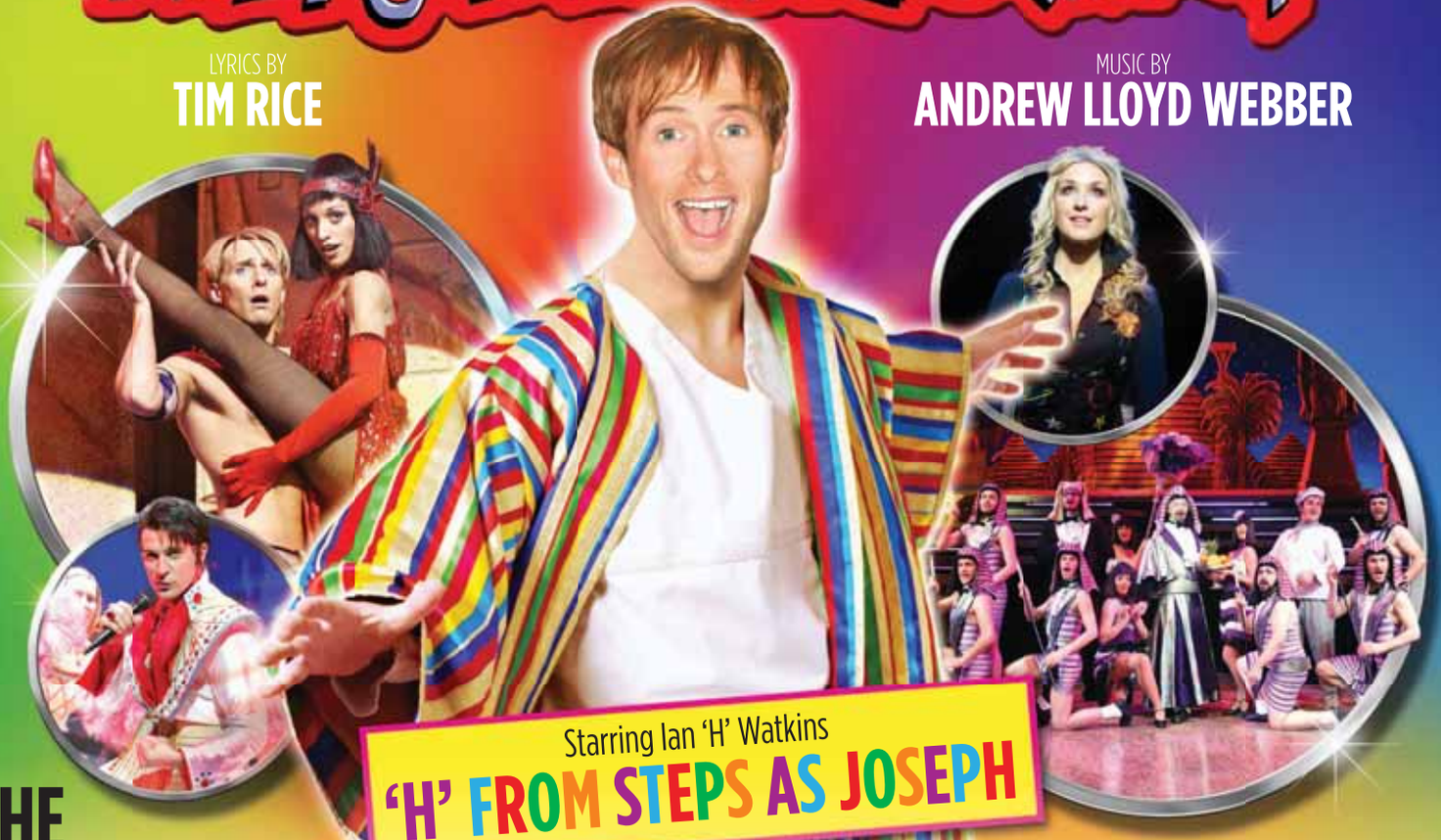
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Village gem is three times as appealing as any city offering

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

As someone who rarely remembers to book, I find it increasingly difficult to find a table in a good independent pub on a Saturday night with just four days' notice.

Sure, there are lots of pubs near me, but most of them are chains – and if they're not, they're booked. So it was with some relief on a Tuesday morning that I was told The Three Tuns, a mere half-hour's drive away, did indeed have one remaining table for two.

At the time of booking I had no idea where Lower Halstow was, or even what the menu offered, and so I was mightily relieved (again!) when I discovered I'd struck gold with this delightful village pub.

I was sold the moment I spotted Fluff, the pub cat, stalking away from the bar not remotely fazed by the buzz of conversation that immediately set this new visitor at ease.

Ushered to our table in the restaurant area, we said goodbye to Fluff and settled down to some complimentary nibbles of nuts, rice crackers and vegetable crisps as we looked over the menu.

While the place was fully booked, we were happy to be seated in quite a spacious room. There were enough people to create an atmosphere and we didn't feel overheard as we chatted over our drinks and food.



The waiting staff were also good enough to leave us to relax before the time came to sample the puddings, and again for another half an hour before we finally felt up to ordering coffees.

Why the delay? Because of the volume and quality of the first two courses.

Our starters, scallops in a leek and cider broth and a mushroom and goat's cheese tart, were both the perfect size, looking and tasting divine, but the main courses were truly something.

My guest had a generous portion of gnocchi with honey-roasted sweet potato; this came with possibly too much cream sauce but was a good, satisfying meal. However, it was nothing compared with my tuna steak.

Seared with soy and sesame and served with Oriental vegetables, the tuna was simply perfect, its only 'failing' being that it was such a generous portion there was no way I could finish it – and, believe me, I tried.

A rhubarb crème brûlée and a mixture of sorbets (I really had eaten too much tuna) and a couple of coffees rounded off the meal nicely as we relaxed into our chairs for another couple of hours' chatter before closing time.

And at less than £70 for three courses, plus coffees and several drinks, we felt the evening was more than value for money.

Everything about the setting screamed traditional country pub (right down to my phone only having a signal in the car park – a very welcome break from the outside world), but the food certainly wouldn't have been out of place in a high-class town or city restaurant and more than surpassed our expectations.

I can't wait to go back.

Erica Jones

■ **The Three Tuns, Lower Halstow, Sittingbourne ME9 7DY (01795 842840, www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk)**

Meet West Malling's new master baker

POPULAR café dining group The Hungry Guest will be opening a new venue in West Malling.

The company is the baby of Danish 'master baker' Troels Bendix and was founded in Petworth, West Sussex, back in 2010.

The chef is known for creating artisan breads and patisserie products from the in-house bakery and he is keen to take over the former Mackenzie's Café in the Kent town.

The dining area will serve locally-produced foodV while the café will produce fresh bakery products throughout the week.

Bendix is also founder of Breads Etcetera, from which he supplied bread for some of the biggest restaurants in London.

Canterbury chosen for Ambrette No 3

THE success of The Ambrette restaurant spreads, with owner Dev Biswal looking to open a third eatery, this time in Canterbury.

The popularity of his Indian restaurants in Margate and Rye has persuaded Biswal to seek out a site in the city and he expects to announce his latest venture before the end of the year.

"We have many regulars at both our existing restaurants who travel from Canterbury on a weekly basis," said Biswal.

"I've been looking for a suitable site in the city for nearly two years but now have a number of options and expect to finalise matters in time for a December opening."

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Fans of Strictly Come Dancing and dance enthusiasts are in for a treat at our exclusive break on the Isle of Wight.
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Add to this a packed entertainment programme in the show lounge, great food in the stylish restaurant, Free drinks from 6 to midnight every night, and car ferry worth £45 per car and you're assured of a strictly perfect weekend.

PRICE INCLUDES:
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- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
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Quote: HP5-KOS



8 May, 2014

Monaco's Historic Grand Prix is a bi-annual extravaganza run on the same circuit and with just as much glitz and glamour as the F1 event - but with the interesting old cars dating from the 1940s to 1980s. We've included 2-day seated grandstand tickets so you can get close to the action and enjoy the sights and sounds of this fabulous event. We travel by train from London, with an overnight stay in Paris, before continuing to Nice, where we stay for 3 nights.

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3 nights half board +99p Bar
£109pp
Quote: PL10-KOS
Over 40s only

Friday 4 October, 2013

The Rat Pack and an endless list of world famous stars have made Las Vegas the entertainment capital of the world. We have reserved the whole of Pontins Pakefield resort to bring you a taste of Vegas with tribute acts and a host of nostalgic fun.

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99p Bar
LET'S HANG ON the No 1 Frankie Valli & the 4 Seasons tribute band
An evening of Dirty Dancing Stage Show
Comedy Night

Dirty Dancing Christmas Party
at Pontins Pakefield Suffolk Coast

3 nights half board +99p Bar
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Quote: DD11-KOS
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Friday 8 Nov, 2013

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INCLUDED: 99p bar 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners



Grease & Saturday Night Fever Christmas Party
Mill Rythe Resort Hayling Island

3 nights half board
+£1.50p Bar
£175pp
Quote: MR11-KOS

Friday 22 Nov, 2013

We had a fabulous Christmas Party at Mill Rythe resort in 2012, so we're doing it all again this year. We've booked the whole resort to bring you this great value party break. You'll enjoy great variety entertainment including a Grease movie screening and tribute show, Frankie Valli and Bee Gees tributes, and a host of nostalgic and festive fun. Plus £1.50 drinks from 6pm to midnight every night.

INCLUDED: £1.50 Bar from 6pm to Midnight every night – house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Entertainment & Activities programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation – upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners • Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna

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New manager at the helm of popular hotel

THE Tudor Park hotel in Maidstone has appointed a new general manager.

Michael Regenhardt has more than 30 years in the German and English hospitality industry and spent the last 20 years working for independently-owned hotels and Marriott International hotels in London, the Midlands and Bournemouth.

Tudor Park, owned by Marriott, is a popular hotel and country club in Bearsted. In November it celebrated its 25th anniversary and later this year will host the Kent on Sunday/Kent Life Food & Drink Awards.



Mr Regenhardt said: "Kent is a beautiful county and Tudor Park is an extremely exciting hotel, rooted in great service and quality and set in an enviable location."



Consultation ends on development plans

A PUBLIC consultation into ambitious plans to transform Newnham Court Shopping Village in Maidstone ends this weekend.

The multi-million pound scheme – as reported in last week's edition – will see the site next to junction seven of the M20 become a major food, fashion and gardening shopping complex. At its heart will be a Waitrose supermarket, which would create some 180 jobs.

Notcutts, which is currently the major tenant at the site, will be relocated to a new building within the improved site.

Commercial property developer Land Securities put the plans on show on Friday and Saturday at the complex, for both businesses and residents to examine.

A planning application is expected to be lodged with Maidstone Borough Council following the consultation.

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on **01303 817000**, or alternatively email your story to **editorial@kosmedia.co.uk**

Major crackdown on building sites to improve safety

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

BUILDING sites across the county are to be targeted this month as part of an annual push to reduce death, injury and ill health in the industry.

During a concentrated drive running throughout September, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) will visit sites in Kent where refurbishment projects or repair works are under way.

Local HSE inspectors will be part of a national team making more than 2,000 unannounced visits to construction sites across the country.

They will be checking to ensure high-risk activities, such as working at height or that which could result in exposure to harmful dusts, including asbestos, are properly managed. They will also check welfare facilities on site are adequate.

Despite a welcome reduction in the number of people killed in 2012/13, the latest figures revealed construction workers are nearly four times as likely to be killed at work compared to the average worker, and an estimated 70,000 people in the industry will today be suffering ill health as a result of work.

In the south east (2012/13), provisional statistics show seven deaths recorded in the construction sector, the second highest of any other region of Great Britain.

The previous year, there were nine fatalities and more than 400 major injuries.

The purpose of the campaign is to drive home the message to those working in the industry that poor risk management and a lack of awareness of responsibilities are not only unacceptable, but can cost lives.

Emma Stiles, HSE's principal construction inspector for the south east, said: "Too many people die every year on construction sites in the south east as a result of entirely avoidable incidents.

"Just as importantly, causes of ill health, such as unnecessary exposure to asbestos or silica dust, can also have fatal or debilitating consequences.

"Often we find it is smaller companies working on refurbishment and repairs that are failing to protect their workers through a lack of awareness and poor control of risks.

"This initiative provides a chance to engage with these firms to help them understand what they need to do, so they can put in place the practical measures needed to keep people safe.

"However, if we find evidence that workers are being unnecessarily and irresponsibly put at risk we will not hesitate to take robust action.

"Companies who deliberately cut corners and put their workers or others at risk will feel the full weight of the law."

Go online to www.hse.gov.uk/construction for more details about the initiative and safe working in the construction industry.



OPTIMISM IN THE INDUSTRY

There are further encouraging signs of growth in the construction and property sector according to the latest employment statistics.

While the UK jobs market growth holds steady, year-on-year growth in job opportunities stands at 16 per cent.

And it is construction and property which lead the growth for the second consecutive month, with a 67 per cent increase in vacancies year-on-year.

The findings are from the latest Reed Job Index, which is compiled using data from around 150,000 vacancies advertised on the employment firm's website.

Engineering firm told to pay almost £12,000 after teen is electrocuted

A Dartford-based engineering firm has been prosecuted for safety failings after a teenage apprentice fell from a ladder after getting an electric shock from badly wired equipment.

The apprentice engineer, just 17 at the time of the incident in June 2012, fell nearly three metres to the floor as he recoiled from an instant bolt of electricity.

He suffered a herniated disc and numbness in his lower back, but has since returned to work.

The incident was investigated by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) which prosecuted Kenard Engineering Company Ltd at Dartford Magistrates' Court.

Magistrates heard that the apprentice, who does not wish to be named, was helping a maintenance worker to move a pillar-mounted crane. When it was in place and the crane wired-up, he climbed a ladder to plug in computer equipment to the cable tray socket.

When the young worker's hand touched the cable tray on top of the pillar, the tray 'earthed' him. At the same time, the pillar he was holding on to for balance became live as a wire had been connected incorrectly.

HSE found that Kenard Engineering had failed to ensure its working systems were safe by allowing someone without the proper competence and experience to wire up the crane.

The firm had an electrical specialist moving and installing the machines but it was customary for employees to move and wire in the cranes.

The company, based in Green Road, was fined £10,000 and told to pay £1,981 in costs after admitting breaching Regulation 4(1) of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Rob Hassell said: "This was a needless injury to a young and inexperienced worker. It could have been avoided by Kenard Engineering by simply ensuring that electrical work, particularly three-phase electrics, was carried out by suitably qualified personnel.

"Working with electricity is a high risk operation and fatalities do occur. All companies need to ensure they identify three-phase electrical work within their operations and take suitable precautions when planning maintenance work."

FOR THE LATEST JOBS IN KENT – WITH MORE THAN 1,500 ADVERTISED – **VISIT WWW.JOBS24.CO.UK/KENT**

School leavers invited to apply for one of 70 'valuable' trainee roles



APPLY: Up to 70 vacancies open

YOUNG people in Kent are being invited to apply for one of 70 apprenticeship vacancies through careers and education service Learndirect.

Employers in the region are currently looking to fill training roles in a variety of sectors, including business administration, childcare, dental, hospitality and health and social care across Kent, London and Sussex.

Ed Cartwright, senior business development advisor, south east, said: "Apprenticeships provide a fantastic way to earn money, gain valuable work experience and come away with qualifications which provide the foundation for a great future. What's more, vacancies are available in a variety of sectors, meaning there are lots of options for school leavers looking to kick start their dream career."

To find out more call 0800 101 901 or visit www.apprenticeships.org.co.uk.

Stage door swings open for fresh recruits

A LEADING theatre owner is due to open its doors to four new young employees, one of which will be based at the Churchill Theatre in Bromley.

Ambassador Theatre Group's (ATG) technical teams will train and mentor the new apprentices for a year.

John Young, head of technical services, said: "We need to address a growing skills gap in the technical sector of our industry, with new recruits possessing the right skills."

Freshers reminded not to forget their TV licence

STUDENTS in Kent due to move into halls ahead of the start of the university term are being reminded to get a TV licence.

With so much to think about, often young people moving out of home for the first time forget or don't realise they have to buy a licence and face prosecution or a fine of up to £1,000.

Students who move out of halls over the summer could be eligible for a part refund. For details see www.tvlicensing.co.uk.

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CAREER: Young people getting that first step on the job ladder through apprenticeship programmes

Online applications for apprenticeships rocket

AS YOUNG people contemplate the next steps in their future career paths following A-level and GCSE results, new figures reveal interest in apprenticeships is soaring with online applications for such vacancies increasing by more than half in the past year.

In Kent, the number of applications made on the internet grew 55 per cent, from 15,920 in 2011/12 to 24,670 in 2012/13.

The number of vacancies posted online in this county also spiked, by 41 per cent over the same period.

The new data was released by the National Apprenticeship Service.

Skills minister Matthew Hancock said he wanted to see it become the norm that young people either went to university or into an apprenticeship.

"To match the growing popularity of apprenticeships, I would urge more employers to consider how hiring an apprentice could benefit their business," he said.

"Research out last week showed that more than 70 per cent of employers say apprentices boosted their service or product – this is testament to the benefits of apprenticeships for both young people and the wider economy."

The fastest growing apprenticeships, based on the number of vacancies advertised online, are health optical retail, vehicle sales, facilities management and clinical healthcare support.

Apprenticeships in the arts, media and publishing were most in demand with an average of 19 applications per vacancy and the most competitive jobs were in live events and promotion (35 applications per vacancy), plumbing and heating (33), and the marine industry (28).

Director of the National Apprenticeship Service, Jaine Bolton, said the figures show demand for apprenticeships keeps growing.

"It is the first choice for many talented young people and more employers wanting young talent need to wake up to this fact," she said.

"With such strong demand for apprenticeships, it is vital that we encourage more employers to take advantage of the benefits that apprenticeships bring.

"With dedicated support from the National Apprenticeship Service and the AGE 16-24 grant available to small and medium businesses, there really has never been a better time to recruit an apprentice."

Some 86 per cent of apprentices stay in employment after their initial apprenticeship finishes, she said.

"Apprenticeships increasingly reflect the exciting world of work and they now cover over 1,500 job roles in 170 different industries, with qualifications up to degree level in many sectors," she added.

To apply for or advertise a vacancy visit apprenticeships.org.uk or call 08000 150 600.

For careers advice, search online for National Careers Service or call 0800 100 900.

A new AV (apprenticeship vacancies) app for iPhone and Android launched in February.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

Seal of approval for higher education courses

MIDKENT College has received national recognition for the quality of its higher education courses.

A team from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) visited the college in May to assess the courses and judged the academic standards, the quality and enhancement of learning opportunities and the quality of information it provides to all meet national benchmarks.

A report into the findings also identified several examples of good practice, including its mentorship, coaching and observations. Its e-learning facilities were also praised.

MidKent College, which has campuses in Maidstone and Medway, offers more than 20 different higher education courses, including Higher National Diplomas and foundation degrees in a number of subjects as well as A-levels and diplomas.

Stephen Batchelor, director of higher education, said: "We are very pleased with the outcome of our QAA review. The process was incredibly useful to us and we welcome the positive comments of the QAA reviewers.

"We look forward to continuing to develop our processes in line with the QAA Quality Code."

Don't let complacency be the end for your business

Serial entrepreneur and business coach **Bev James**, who along with Dragons' Den star James Caan formed the Entrepreneurs' Business Academy, explains why a green light could signal danger for your firm

WHEN it comes to running a business there is nothing new about the idea of having a KPI (key performance indicator) 'dashboard' where a traffic light system flags up potential problems and pitfalls.

Traditionally, green is a sign that everything is as it should be and there is no need to take any immediate action.

Amber signals there are issues that need to be addressed before a problem gets out of hand and red means immediate action is required to tackle a major issue.

The traffic light system has been around for a long time and is a fairly standard way of judging how well a business is performing.

Sadly, and especially in the current volatile trading climate, there are plenty of examples in the market place of companies which have failed to heed the warnings and paid the ultimate price.

Complacency is one of the biggest dangers facing business today. If you have lulled yourself into a false sense of security then even a current green light could still mean trouble ahead.

It can be a case of the market shifting around you and your customers moving on to new products or services or it can simply be a case of growing too quickly without putting the proper strategy and plans in place to deal with major expansion.

While it makes perfect sense to be ready for any eventuality, as a business person I tend to take the traffic light system one step further and take a proactive approach when it comes to being prepared for any future hiccups or issues.

By nature I would not describe myself as a cautious person and I have a tendency to act on instinct. Rather than sit around worrying about all the ifs, buts and maybes in life I tend to "go for it" when an opportunity presents itself.

I have always believed there is no time for regrets and it is much better to grab opportunities with both hands rather than sit around spending my time worrying about what might have or could have been.

But when it comes to planning ahead for potential problems I have always been more cautious and careful and that means looking out for potential problems before the red lights or even the amber ones start to flash.

I have long believed in expecting the very best but being prepared for the worst to happen.

Ask yourself what would you do if your business took a sudden downturn tomorrow?

What could you do to generate additional revenue, collect debt or save costs to stabilise your business?

If it's the right thing to do in an emergency perhaps you could consider doing it today.

It is no secret that small and newly launched businesses are the most vulnerable to failure, which is why so many new firms cease trading within a few years of being created.

Being prepared means having a healthy cash reserve to help you survive short-term difficulties or problems. At the same time it makes good sense not to expand too quickly.

I know that in the early days, it is really difficult to turn business down but many firms overstretch themselves and become vulnerable.

I would advise those who are involved in running a business to not only be prepared for any unexpected developments but to take a long hard look at the way they operate and look at areas where potential problems could arise. It is not a case of worrying about problems that may never happen, it is taking a pragmatic and practical approach.

Any firm, particularly the smaller ones, can be vulnerable to sudden and unexpected changes. As a business owner you need to look at whether you are over-reliant on one customer or one supplier. The same rule can apply to relying too heavily on a single member of staff or concentrating on one single product or line.

A business can appear to be doing well and have a healthy turnover and profit margins, but if it is all based around one large customer then things can change very quickly.

It never pays to take a lop-sided approach and if this was the case I would consider the lights to be on amber rather than green – even if the business appears to be in a healthy state.

They say hindsight is a great thing but being proactive and looking for problems before they occur can save pain and regret in the long term.

■ **See www.bevjames.com for more details.**



Firm plans to make profit from free ID cards for young people

A NEW national identity card has been launched designed to act as a proof of age to youngsters, while also creating a marketing database to deliver its creators some healthy margins.

Civilian ID Ltd, based in Bromley, is confident its new Civilian Card will prove a hit in an already crowded marketplace and is hoping its USP – namely it costs nothing to acquire – will see it swiftly become the standard method of ID.

The card will bear the official hologram of the Proof of Age Standards Scheme (PASS) which denotes legal proof of age and is recognised across the UK by retailers, police and bar staff.

By being free it hopes to prove a more attractive proposition to having to get a passport, driving licence or other photo ID cards, which typically cost around £15.



FREE: Civilian Card for young people

Civilian ID's managing director Tom Kenny said: "Young people are constantly being asked to show documentary proof of age by the likes of pub and gaming industry staff, but who wants to carry their passport around all the time?

"This empowers youngsters with legally valid proof of age, but without the cost, hassle or risk of identity theft inherent in other forms of ID."

The company aims to cover its costs and make a profit by selling marketing opportunities – including market research, advertising, affiliate marketing and corporate social responsibility – to corporate partners in the entertainment industry, including betting and gaming, fashion, financial services, food, technology and other sectors.

Mr Kenny added: "Young people understand Civilian ID's free-of-charge business model which is similar to that of companies like YouTube and Facebook. The opportunities for our corporate partners to work with us and reach out to Civilian's growing database of UK 15 to 25-year-olds are massive."

The PASS hologram is awarded only after a stringent audit of the card issuer's systems and processes by the Trading Standards Institute. This ensures the issuer meets the demanding criteria laid down by the PASS board.

Mr Kenny concludes: "The cards may be free of charge, but we won't be handing them out like confetti.

"We always positively verify the applicant's name, date of birth and contact details including mobile phone number, and we always ring referees to confirm that they have endorsed the application."

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Pub toasts £60,000 refurbishment project

THE Kings Head in Shadoxhurst is set for a £60,000 refurbishment to extend its bar and kitchen.

The popular pub is hoping the investment, from brewers Shepherd Neame, will allow it to further cash-in on demand for food.

Run by Ian and Julie Clark, it won the brewer's Pub Food of the Year award in 2009 and has developed a strong reputation.

Farm machinery to be sold at major auction

A RANGE of farm machinery and equipment will go under the hammer at a special agricultural auction in Rochester this week.

The sale comprises a large number of items from local farms, including a combine harvester, tractor, quad bikes and reversible ploughs.

Organised by the BTF Partnership, it takes place at 10.30am on September 11 at Mackays Court Farm, Lower Stoke, Rochester.

Centre takes a bite out of Green Apple award

TUNBRIDGE Wells shopping complex Royal Victoria Place has been awarded the internationally acclaimed Green Apple Award in recognition of its Ready Steady Green initiative - designed to hit targets and educate on waste recovery and recycling.

The awards, operated by The Green Organisation, have become widely established as one of the major environmental recognition schemes.

DFDS crowned king of the ferry operators

DOVER to Calais and Dunkirk ferry operator DFDS Seaways has been named 'Europe's Leading Ferry Operator' at the European leg of the 2013 World Travel Awards in Antalya, Turkey.

It is the seventh consecutive year the ferry company has been recognised for its outstanding service at the awards, seen as the Oscars for the travel industry.

Organic growth as biology firm expands

ADBALTIS, a growing scientific start-up business based on Kent Science Park, is continuing its rapid expansion by taking on more staff members and planning development into additional space.

It specialises in providing biological materials to the In Vitro diagnostics industry as well as research organisations. It hopes to have recruited three more staff over the coming year.

Could Workhub office space work for you?

MAIDSTONE Borough Council is seeking to gauge a response to plans to set up a 'workhub' in the town centre - in effect, creating an 'office when needed' workspace.

Experts in the field, Workhubs, will hold a consultation into the proposals on September 17 from 9.30am in the Town Hall. Consultation details are at www.workhubs.com/surveys. To attend email karenfranek@maidstone.gov.

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Citroën C5 says space and style in its latest incarnation

Driving

Powered by motors.co.uk

drive24.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



FIRST DRIVE RANGE ROVER SPORT

Price: from £51,500
Driving appeal: ★★★★★
Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★★★
Value: ★★★★
Running costs: ★★★
Reliability: ★★★★★
How green?: ★★
Best rival: BMW X5

Range Rover Sport comes of age

NOW I admit I never liked the original Range Rover Sport.

It was too blingy, there was that awkward blanked-out glass at the base of the windscreen and it all looked a bit 'new money' – not Range Rover at all.

You might say the smaller Evoque aka Champagne Charlie has since changed Range Rover's image forever anyway, but the second-generation Sport marks a return to old Range Rover class and a new spirit of innovation.

Apparently, the brief was indeed to "make it more of a Range Rover, and give it more Sport" and it succeeded, justifying Land Rover's "best sporting SUV – on and off-road" pitch.

With the latest Range Rover (RR) easing further upmarket, this allows more breathing space for the new Sport, aggressively priced from £51,500 – some £20K less than the cheapest RR – and introduces a seven-seat option to attack its arch-rival, the BMW X5. The extra space needed comes from the extra 62mm of length.

Like the new Range Rover, the Sport has also been dieting: ground-breaking aluminium technology used on the RR has been carried over, allowing both cars to shed 420 kilos – equivalent to five adult passengers. This has revolutionised the Sport's performance and economy, not to mention its image in an era that frowns upon conspicuous consumption.

The three engine options also have an eight-speed automatic transmission, plus emissions- and fuel-saving stop/start technology.

The 258bhp TDV6 and 292bhp SDV6 3.0-litre diesels dominate sales, but the Sport might not justify its name fully if the supercharged 510bhp 5.0-litre V8 petrol unit were not also in the mix.

Few will buy the V8, but an afternoon at the wheel, including a blast down a runway, proved that 'Sport' has definitely been injected into the car: 0-62mph in five seconds, plus growling full-throttle acceleration after that, with brakes to complement such prodigious performance.

Even more impressive but, sadly, even less likely to be put to the test is the Sport's ability off-road – those genuinely needing off-road clout will say this is where the car's greatest value for money lies.

They might also go for the Wade Sensing feature, which monitors depth when driving through water; the new car has an extra 150mm of wading capability, to a maximum of 850mm – I can tell you it works.

But the Sport is really Land Rover's GTi, so the key feature is driving and handling prowess. This can sharpened by a new Torque Vectoring control package.

Not that standard mode is dull, thanks to the lighter body, while remapped steering makes the driver feel more able to tap into this big car's new nimbleness. All the while, the heavily insulated and luxurious cabin and revised air suspension cosset the occupants.







IMPROVED: The new Range Rover Sport is a major leap forward on its previous incarnation, and has a reduced price tag too. Now drivers have to realise this and make the most of all the features and excellent drive capability

DON'T LIKE

... the price. It's a bargain at the price, actually, but I still wish a lot more people could afford to experience a true all-rounder and British marvel.

NOT SURE

... it will escape its predecessor's tacky image straight away, but a likely string of awards will come, plus the status 'future classic'.

REALLY LIKE

... the fact Land Rover's increasingly confident designers and engineers created a masterpiece as much at home on-road as it is off it.

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Aladdin with a 'Touch of Klaus'

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SOMETIMES, to win new fans, you lose some you have.

And so it is with the Citroën C5 saloon and Tourer (estate): the quintessentially French marque had wanted to astound car-buyers generally with a car that could have been built by the Germans.

The advertising fanfare included an oompah band, bierkeller girls and Teutonic lines like a "A Touch of Klaus", "Deutsch Marque" and, for the Tourer estate tested here, "Das Boot".

Unfortunately, the sharply-sculpted lines – a BMW/Audi pastiche far superior to the previous-generation 'jelly mould' C5 – dismayed some Citroën diehards who had wanted a return to the elegance of the even earlier Xantia.

Meanwhile, buyers Citroën hoped it could recruit with its new autobahn-storming approach were not fooled; badge snobs do not readily cast aside their German key fobs.

Perhaps they also noted suspiciously that the C5 still does have some of the brand's quirky and clever touches: the steering-wheel boss remains stationary while the rim rotates so that audio and other controls are always where you expect to find them; flagship Exclusive models also have the latest generation of Aladdin's favourite, Citroën's famous hydro-pneumatic magic carpet suspension. In a bid to get a sales edge, though – C5 prices start at £21,555 – lesser versions have a conventional mechanical suspension.

Our test car, though, is an Exclusive version of the Tourer, surely one of the most elegant large estates on the market? It's also a lot of car for the money at £30,160 with generous standard spec, but the overriding impression is quality of journey; the self-levelling suspension and close attention to acoustic insulation of the front windows means that the C5 achieves limo-like levels of progress, with little wind and road noise.

'Aladdin-mode' can be overridden by a Sport button, which beefs up chassis response for faster and more challenging modes, though keen drivers might then carp at the C5's light steering touch, speed-sensitive though it is, but you can't win 'em all.

The C5 is an upmarket place to be, though, with high-quality fixtures and fittings, and this top-of-the-range version would not disgrace the legendary DS series of the 1950s and 60s.

Of course, Citroën's renowned quirkiness does rear its head somewhere and I found that in the fiddly audio system and a surprising lack of places to stow things.

On the other hand, the C5 is utterly practical for those who need a load-lugging estate. Not as cavernous as some predecessors – though its smaller bulk makes it easier to pilot – it is still a star of the big-estate sector with 505 litres of boot space and 1,462 litres overall with rear seats folded flat, though the sector leader is the Ford Mondeo with 535 and 1,728 respectively.

Cabin accommodation is spacious, with good leg and headroom, and, again, you do feel Citroën has pulled out all the stops to convey a feeling of quality, especially against the previous C5.

The current car also had a facelift this time last year. Visually, this shows only in some tweaks to an already sleek and aerodynamic nose, plus in-vogue LED daytime running lights.

But there has been streamlining of the line-up and the switch to all diesel powertrains – a Citroën forte – was a bit of a no-brainer and highlights frugality built into the range, with 62.8mpg (combined cycle) claimed for the Airdream eco version (from £22,255).

Even our silky and sporty top-of-the-range 200bhp 2.2-litre V6 diesel version claims 47.9mpg combined and does it with style.

CITROËN C5 TOURER HDI 200 EXCLUSIVE: PRICE £30,160



IMPROVED: Citroën's latest C5 has learned some lessons in its bid to compete with the German big boys

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★
Road tax:	£170/year
Best rival:	Ford Mondeo

Kent dealers:

Wilmoths	
Ashford	01233 640100
Folkestone	01303 245588
Maidstone	01622 750442
Hidsons	
Northfleet	01474 546470
Gillingham	01634 377244
Barretts	
Canterbury	01227 828999

First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Confidence in the 'lucky 13'

AS sales of the new six-month 63-registration plate take off, the motor industry's mouthpiece, the SMMT, says the outgoing 13 plate's 1,115,459 registrations meant it outsold the past nine plates.

This is attributed to affordable finance and buyers opting for better fuel efficiency, maintenance and often lower tax bands – and maybe improved consumer confidence?



Connect with the van MPVs

ORDER books are open for the Ford Tourneo Connect (from £14,245) and seven-seat Grand Tourneo Connect (from £16,985) – the marque's first foray into the popular van-based MPV sector.

Aimed at big or sporting families, the newcomers enter an arena where French manufacturers and Fiat have dominated but will probably target VW's slightly more upmarket Caddy MPV variants.



Fastest for under £30K

VAUXHALL'S facelifted Insignia line-up will boast the UK's fastest car for less than £30,000 when it arrives this year.

The new Insignia VXR SuperSport has a top speed of 170mph and power of 325PS (323bhp) and benefits from a raft of styling and chassis revisions across the range – VXR models were already great value against German premium opposition.

NU 63 REG Vauxhall

SALE

SAVE UP TO £1,755

5 Years 0% APR Representative

Finance plan available

Massive price reductions on Vauxhall ADAM



ADAM SLAM

List Price £13,150

Save £1,755

60 Monthly Payments	Deposit	Cash Price Cash Price & Total Amount Payable	Amount of Credit	
£189.91	£0	£11,395	£11,395	0%APR



ADAM JAM

List Price £11,255

Save £1,360

60 Monthly Payments	Deposit	Cash Price & Total Amount Payable	Amount of Credit	
£164.91	£0	£9,895	£9,895	0%APR



ADAM GLAM

List Price £12,650

Save £1,755

60 Monthly Payments	Deposit	Cash Price Cash Price & Total Amount Payable	Amount of Credit	
£181.58	£0	£10,895	£10,895	0%APR

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3(3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO2 emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Cars shown for illustration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Includes Partners discount, stock vehicles only.

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Sutton Road, Parkwood Estate
Maidstone ME15 9FB
Telephone: 08442 475 302
www.fgbarnes.co.uk

Motability

Motability drives worries away

MOTABILITY has revolutionized the way the disabled and their families get from A to B.

What had been a daunting physical and financial worry to them was blown away by the innovative Government-backed scheme, enabling the disabled to take to the road for much less than it would cost to buy or lease a new or nearly-new car privately.

Motability helps them, too, with potentially costly adaptations for controls or wheelchair access. The scheme's regular payments can also take care of everyday running costs, from insurance, maintenance and repairs to breakdown assistance – which can be a huge reassurance when motoring costs are soaring.

What is more, Motability does not insist that the disabled person is the driver; the car is made available for the benefit of that person, which means that up to two other named drivers can be on the car's insurance cover instead of the disabled person.

For more about this liberating scheme for disabled people, see inside this special supplement.





CHOICE: Car-buyers with disabilities have the same range of choices as any able-bodied person thanks to Motability – from the fashionable style of an SUV like the big-selling Hyundai ix35 (main picture) to the capacious style of a Vauxhall Zafira Tourer MPV.

www.renault.co.uk

GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY

WITH RENAULT'S LATEST MOTABILITY OFFERS



NEW RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE MEDIANAV 1.2 16V 75

Multimedia touchscreen with navigation
Bluetooth and iPod connectivity
Efficient ENERGY engines

£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT



RENAULT MEGANE HATCH EXPRESSION+ dCi 90

16" alloy wheels
Bluetooth & iPod connectivity
Air conditioning

£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT



NEW RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM 1.5 dCi 110 STOP & START

Multimedia touchscreen with navigation
Grip Xtend advanced traction control and mud and snow tyres

£595 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

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MAIDSTONE ME15 9XY
TEL 0844 822 7112

MOTORLINE CANTERBURY
WESTMINSTER ROAD
CANTERBURY CT1 1YY
TEL 0844 822 7100

MOTORLINE ASHFORD
HILTON ROAD
ASHFORD TN23 1EW
TEL 0844 822 7094

WWW.MOTORLINE.CO.UK

RENAULT

The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Renault core range are: Urban 27.2 (10.4)–78.5 (3.6); Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2)–94.2 (3); Combined 36.7 (7.7)–88.3 (3.2). The official CO_2 emissions for the range are 178–83g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO_2 may vary according to driving styles, road conditions and other factors.

Advance payment offers are only valid for Motability applications to 30 September 2013 and are correct at time of going to press. Motability This is a trademark of Motability. Registered charity number 299745.

MOTABILITY

More cars available @drive24.co.uk motors.co.uk Powered by







OPENED UP: Clockwise from top left... Motability has brought family solutions to disabled drivers by offering cars like the Vauxhall Meriva and Fiat 500L MPVs and the Nissan Qashqai crossover

Motability – the revolution

THERE used to be little freedom or joy in being a disabled driver, with Government aid limited strictly to those who could drive themselves.

And this was usually in an unstable single-seat blue Invacar three-wheeler – not much use for families.

This changed in 1978 with the Government-backed Motability charity, which calculated an allowance disabled people could use towards a vehicle of their choice, removing the stigma of the Invacar – outlawed from UK roads in 2003 – and opening up transport to disabled people who relied on others to drive them.

Since then, more than three million cars, scooters and powered wheelchairs have been sourced through Motability, which accounts for 10 per cent of all new cars sold in the UK.

These allow disabled people to shop, do voluntary work, visit friends, go to the doctor, do sport, give a family member a lift or go on holiday – things the motoring majority takes for granted.

Some users have even taken up further education or pursued better jobs and careers, having been liberated by their new mobility.

The scheme was amended last year, though, to speed procedures and prevent misuse creeping into the system.

THE AMENDMENTS

- The list of cars was streamlined
- Nominated drivers must live at or within five miles of the applicant's address, though special circumstances will be considered
- Drivers under 25 are restricted to cars with an insurance group of 16 or lower and a power output of 115bhp or less
- Drivers under 21 are only permitted to drive Motability vehicles in cases where they live with the disabled customer.

Great Motability offers from Peugeot

NEW **2008** ACCESS+ 1.4 HDi 70
NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
• Radio CD player • Air-conditioning
• Electric front windows
• Cruise control

208 ACTIVE 1.4 HDi 70 5 door
NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT
• Multi-function colour touchscreen • 3 or 5 door
• Bluetooth® & USB • Air-conditioning
• 15" alloy wheels • Cruise control and speed limiter





PEUGEOT **2008** ACCESS+ / **208** ACTIVE

The Peugeot 208, winner of the Auto Express award for best Supermini 2012 is now available through Motability with NIL advance payment. Or choose the new Peugeot 2008 Crossover, also with nothing to pay upfront. Compact enough for the city streets and versatile enough for road trips, it's every car you'll ever need. Contact us today to find out more.

MOTION & EMOTION

PEUGEOT

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www.robinsandday-maidstone.co.uk

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209 High Street, ROCHESTER, ME1 1HF Tel: 01634 842 231
www.robinsandday-rochester.co.uk

The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 2008 range are: Urban 36.7-68.9 (7.7-4.1), Extra Urban 58.9-78.5 (4.8-3.6), Combined 47.9-74.3 (5.9-3.8) and CO_2 135-98; 208 range: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (8.1 – 3.6), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135 – 87.

MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.
*Nil advance payment subject to availability and on selected 2008 and 208 models only. Information and offers correct at time of going to press, however Peugeot Motor Company PLC reserve the right to change these at any time and without notice. Models shown are for illustrative purposes only. For full terms and conditions, please contact the Peugeot Motability line on 0845 945 5466. Calls may be recorded for training purposes. Motability line on 0845 945 5466. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

Motability offers you the ability to enjoy worry-free motoring

A new car every 3 years

Breakdown cover and insurance included

To find out how Motability can help you, talk to our specialist today.

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

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FIFA WORLD CUP Brasil

Premium quality without the premium.





HYUNDAI ix20 ACTIVE 1.6 AUTO
from nil advance payment

HYUNDAI ix35 STYLE 1.6 GDi
from £399 advance payment

Motability PREMIER PARTNER

Motorline Hyundai – Maidstone 0843 658 2644 Bircholt Road, Parkwood, Maidstone ME15 9YN
Motorline Hyundai – Canterbury 0843 658 2657 Units 2b & 2c, Westminster Road, Canterbury CT1 1YY

Models shown: ix20 Active 1.6 auto in Ice Blue metallic paint with nil advance payment. ix35 Style 1.6 GDi in Sleek Silver metallic paint with £399 advance payment. To qualify for the Motability offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement. Offers available until 30th September 2013, inclusive and are subject to acceptance of Motability application. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Full written details, including terms and conditions, of the Motability Scheme are available on request from Motability. Please note 60,000 miles over 3 years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 Auto: Urban 34.0 (8.3), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5), Combined 43.6 (6.5), CO_2 Emissions 154 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix35 Style 1.6 GDi: Urban 34.4 (8.2), Extra Urban 47.1 (6.0), Combined 41.5 (6.8), CO_2 Emissions 158 g/km.

MOTABILITY

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So which is the car for you?

MOTABILITY choice is wide but can be daunting, so here are the pros and cons of different vehicle categories:

Small to medium cars

Tend to have lower advance payments, running costs and CO_2 emissions. Two- to three-door cars generally have wider doors with larger opening angles. These may make access easier, but closing the door and fitting in narrow parking spaces may be harder, while four- to five-door cars benefit from superior back-seat access – better for passengers.

Family cars

Large four-door saloons or five-door hatchbacks are considerably larger than medium-sized cars. Hatchbacks usually have more boot space.

Estate cars

Often longer than a saloon or hatchback, with useful space for mobility aids in the boot, but this can add to the car's bulk, so check it out first with a test drive.

Multi-purpose vehicles (MPV)

Ranging from small to large, MPVs usually seat five to seven. The seats are higher, with more headroom, legroom and width. Some have large sliding side-doors.

Sport Utility Vehicles (SUV) and 4x4s

'4x4' usually describes vehicles designed for off-road use, which generally have higher ground clearance. Until recently, all 4x4s had four-wheel-drive, but many people now buy for the SUV styling and opt for a front-wheel-drive version to save fuel.

Coupés, roadsters and cabriolets

Sporty, seating two or four people, they may be compromised for disabled users due to low and cramped seating and a smaller boot.





Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAVs)

Cars converted to carry passengers travelling in their wheelchair or wishing to drive from a wheelchair, WAVs may be best if you have trouble getting in and out of the car from your wheelchair. The Motability website hosts a specific WAV Search feature.



A RANGE OF OPTIONS TO SUIT ALL TASTES: Clockwise from bottom left, the Peugeot Partner Tepee is a spacious and practical vehicle, the Alfa Romeo Giulietta is a sporty five-door hatchback and the Renault Captur is the latest funky SUV/crossover

Nissan Motability range from

£NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT

NISSAN Innovation that excites

NOTE N-TEC+ 1.4 5DR



- Nissan Connect (with piano black surround) • Rear parking sensors
- Rear privacy glass • 16" Two tone alloy wheels • Single CD radio with 6 speakers • Audio with Bluetooth® compatibility
- MP3 auxiliary input • USB auxiliary input • Auto air conditioning with pollen filter • Cruise control • Rain sensing wipers

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JUKE ACENTA 1.6 5DR



- Nissan Dynamic Control System • CD radio with MP3 playback
- Bluetooth phone integration • USB port • Cruise control
- Audio steering switches • Front fog lights • 17" Sport alloy wheels
- Climate control with pollen filter • Internal chrome door handles
- Trip computer with temperature gauge

£NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT

QASHQAI ACENTA 1.6 5DR



- Chrome-trimmed LCD combimeter • Drive computer
- CD radio with 6 speakers • Audio with Bluetooth compatibility
- Ultrasonic rear park system (RPS) • Cruise control with speed limiter
- Dual zone climate control air conditioning • Ultrasonic alarm system
- 17'' Alloy wheels • AUX socket for MP3 players • USB port

£49 ADVANCE PAYMENT

INCLUDING FREE REAR PARKING SYSTEM ON ALL NISSAN MOTABILITY ORDERS!

Have a chat with our Nissan Motability Specialist for more information

Motability offers you the ability to enjoy worry-free motoring

Choose an adaption to suit your needs

A new car every 3 years

To find out how Motability can help you, talk to our specialist today

Motability

Book a test drive today

Motorline Nissan Tunbridge Wells
Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3UY. Tel 0843 658 1702

www.motorline.co.uk/nissan
Sales department opening hours: 8.30am to 6.00pm Monday to Saturday and 10.00am-4.00pm Sunday.

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg(l/100km) for the Nissan range are: Urban 16.6 (17.0) - 54.3 (5.2), Extra-urban 32.1 (8.8) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 24.0 (11.8) - 65.7 (4.3). Official emission figures range from 275-99/km

The scheme is available to recipients of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners Mobility Supplement. To qualify for this offer you must be in receipt of a minimum of 12 months allowance. This programme is subject to the standard conditions of the Motability three-year Contract Hire Scheme. Full written details and quotations available on request from a Nissan Authorised participating Dealer or Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876) and are subject to applications received and accepted with Motability Operations by 30 September 2013. Under the scheme the vehicles are leased from Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Vehicle shown is for illustration purposes only.

MOTABILITY

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Facts about Motability

UP to two nominated drivers can drive a Motability vehicle, but the disabled person qualifying for the scheme does not have to be one of them.

The drivers may be friends or relatives, and parents or carers can apply on behalf of a child aged three years or older.

The car only has to be used for the benefit of the disabled person, such as a shopping trip or collecting a prescription – they don't even have to be in the car. A third insured driver can be added for a small payment.

If you receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, you can apply for a Motability lease by exchanging part or all of that allowance.

Motability is a worry-free package that includes:

- A choice of about 2,000 car models
- Insurance, servicing and maintenance
- RAC breakdown assistance
- Road tax
- Tyre and windscreen replacement
- 60,000 mileage allowance over three years.

Car dimensions vary: seat height, door-opening angle and storage space for wheelchairs and equipment can all affect whether the car works for you and your particular disability or not, but your local dealer can take you through a questionnaire designed to ensure that the car and Motability is right for you.

Many special adaptations are available free to help with: speed and steering, signalling and safety, stowage, and seating and access.

The Motability package continues to the end of your three-year lease, with a seamless transfer to your new car.

Some 600,000 customers currently choose Motability and 97 per cent say they would recommend the scheme to their friends.







MOTABILITY STYLE: Clockwise from top left, the Hyundai i40 Tourer, Vauxhall Insignia and the new Renault Scenic with SUV appeal – the XMOD

Lipscomb
www.lipscomb.co.uk

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people



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Lipscomb Volvo 0843 022 4188
Central House, Ashford Road, Chartham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 7HH

Lipscomb Fiat 0845 338 9903
Bridge House, Chart Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HZ

Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE.

6581

MOTABILITY

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‘Drive’ your car onsite with Motability

DISABLED car-buyers can’t easily trek around many different dealers to find their ideal car, so it’s great that Motability’s website can help draw up a short-list.

It has a search function that allows a fast check through the 2,000 or so eligible vehicles, taking account of buying parameters and the specialist needs of Motability users.

Search by car details takes a consumer-style approach and includes:

- What kind of mobility allowance the user has
- What level of advance payment the user intends to pay, if anything
- Preferred car type, make, model and number of doors
- Whether the user wants a manual, semi-automatic or automatic gearbox
- Whether the driver is under 25

However, there are two other search programmes: Search by Accessibility Needs, taking account of car measurements, and Search for a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV).

There is also excellent advice on what type of car to look for, in language more relevant to disabled users, such as how hatchbacks have a lift-up rear door or ‘hatch’, which could make it harder for a wheelchair-user to open/close or access items or be problematic when opening in the garage.

For more tips like this, though, see our earlier page on which car class might be the best choice for you.







EASY RIDERS: Clockwise from left: Motability.co.uk’s search function makes it easier to work out which of these would be best for you, from the versatile Peugeot 3008 crossover, economical Kia Rio supermini and classy Hyundai Santa Fe.



BARRETTS HONDA
Vauxhall Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YY
Call 01227 866266 or visit www.barrettshonda.co.uk

Fuel consumption for the Honda car range in mpg (l/100km): Urban Cycle 23.2 – 70.6 (12.2 – 4.0), Extra Urban 40.4 – 85.6 (7.0 – 3.3), Combined 32.5 – 78.5 (8.7 – 3.6). CO_2 emissions 201 – 94g/km.
Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.
Models shown for illustrative purposes: Jazz 1.4 i-VTEC Si Manual in optional White Orchid Pearl, Civic 1.8 i-VTEC EX GT Manual in Milano Red with optional 18-inch Krypton alloy wheels and CR-V 2.2 i-DTEC EX in optional Crystal Black Pearl.

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Requirements:
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Senior Care Assistant

required to join our team in a residential home in Faversham. Will be working on a rota basis. Must be organised, efficient, forward thinking and a good delegator. Excellent communication skills required. Duties include, supporting home manager, handling medication, planning all aspects of residents care, record keeping and taking full responsibility for shifts. NVQ3 or working towards would be an advantage.

For further details
tel: 01795 532629
between 10am and 4pm

Edenbridge Community Warden (Part Time)

Salary: £10,532 per annum eligible for final salary pension
Location: Edenbridge
Responsible to: Deputy Town Clerk

Edenbridge seeks a person keen to improve the local environment, provide a link between residents, agencies, and voluntary organisations, and promote community safety. This role is 3 days a week (22 hours) contract initially until October 2015. It requires initiative and working as part of a small team; flexibility to cover some evening/ weekend work; ability to keep records; a clean driving licence and being subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure.
For further information and application form call 01732 865368
or e-mail kathy@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk
Edenbridge Town Council, Doggetts Barn, 72A High St, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5AR
Closing date 12 noon 16 September 2013.

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Baileys Nissan are looking for a young and dynamic individual for thisexciting vacancy.

You need to be customer focused, well presented, articulate and have a real interest in the motor industry. Full driving licence essential.

If you believe you have the right qualities and the passion to be successful in this exciting but challenging career, please forward your cv and a covering letter via email to:
chris.hamilton@baileysnissan.co.uk

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Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

***"An outstanding school"* (Ofsted July 2010 & October 2012)**

We are currently looking for a…

TEACHING ASSISTANT

to join and enhance our large and expanding, high calibre team.

Medway Scale, Grade D2
£15,189 - £19,317 pro-rata + SEN Allowance (£1,189)

Are you committed, motivated and enthusiastic?
Can you make a difference?
If so, share your talents and expertise with us.

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w (8.45am – 3.45pm), term time only. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Only those with childcare experience, or relevant childcare qualifications should apply.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone (stating the role for which you are applying): Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP

(01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Closing date: 20.9.13

Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a….

part time Physiotherapists

to join and enhance our high calibre team
Medway Scale B2 to A – point 32 to 46 (£27,052 to £38,961)
(term time only - pro rata)

Abbey Court School is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. We are looking for enthusiastic and experienced Physiotherapists, with a professional and flexible approach. Applicants should have an interest in working in an educational setting which commits to enabling pupils to reach their full potential. The postholders will be offered the opportunity to express their creativity, work holistically and demonstrate their strengths whilst undertaking a wide variety of tasks.

Working hours are 18.5 hours p/w, term time only. The successful candidates will work as part of a larger therapy team, alongside Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist, Music and Art Therapists. Candidates should hold a relevant Physiotherapy qualification. Benefits include: Local Authority pension scheme, induction training, performance management programme and Continuous Professional Development. Visits to the school are welcomed. Salary is negotiable between top and bottom scales.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 13th September 2013

For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Please note CVs will not be accepted.

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PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//13/01570/FUL: 1 Barn Cottages, Summer Lane, Tyler Hill, Hackington, CT2 9NJ Extension to front, side and rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Nevell** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01579/CAC: Old Kings Boathouse, Fordwich Road, Fordwich Demolition of boathouse. **Applicant: Miss Fiona Cadwallader** Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.
CA//13/01586/FUL: Rose Cottage, Watery Lane, Petham, CT4 5QR Proposed three bay cart shed with office and storage above. **Applicant: Mr D Hadley and Ms J Hall** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01622/FUL: 85 Lower Herne Road, Herne, CT6 7ND New dormer window to northwest elevation roofslope of residential dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Todd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01638/FUL: 64A Mortimer Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5PS Conversion of existing commercial/storage building to a bed and breakfast, including single-storey flat roof extension at the rear. **Applicant: The Yard Rooms** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01641/LB: Westgate Court, 1 Linden Grove, Canterbury, CT2 8AB Internal and External alterations to Westgate Court and ancillary buildings. **Applicant: Ms A Harris-Deans** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be submitted via public access on the planning pages of the website **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc** to arrive on or before **Monday 30 September 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 6 September 2013

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Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0759/SH+ - Saltwood House Rectory Lane Saltwood Hythe Kent - Listed building consent for 3 flues.

Y13/0866/SH - 12 & 13 Twiss Avenue Hythe Kent CT21 5NU - Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising the reduction back to the boundary of overhanging branches of a Beech and 2 metre reduction in height of a Bay

Y13/0815/SH# - Willow Farm House Norwood Lane Newchurch Romney Marsh Kent - Erection of a 5.5m diameter wind turbine mounted on a 18.7m high tower.

Y13/0744/SH+ - The Old Rectory Rectory Lane Saltwood Hythe Kent - Erection of replacement front porch and rear Orangery.

Y13/0761/SH* - Land adjoining 2 Lairage Close Swingfield Dover Kent CT15 7GY - Outline application for the erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling (all matters reserved).

Y13/0590/SH - Fairview Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Exterior refurbishments: replace existing plastic cladding with white-painted featheredge wood, renew some windows and back door, change colour scheme of exterior windows and doors, renew and enlarge shed, repair and part-paint chimney breast, renew guttering.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

\# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/13/1160/N - FOX AND GOOSE INN, WEAVERING STREET, WEAVERING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5JP - Retrospective application for the installation of two windows to the side elevation and erection of a marquee to rear. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1432/S - MOUSEHOLE FARM, MAIDSTONE ROAD, NETTLESTEAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 5HR - Erection of a shower/toilet block and installation of a septic tank. **Reason: 7**

Reasons for advertisement key:

1 - Application affects the setting of a Listed Building.

7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **22nd September 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 8th September 2013.

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NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATION - ADDITIONAL/AMENDED DETAILS

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Land at and surrounding Rathmore Road south of the Railway, Gravesend, Kent.

Planning Application KCC/GR/0148/2012 submitted by Kent County Council Highways and Transportation for Improvements to Rathmore Road, Gravesend, including its realignment through the existing car park at the eastern end to a new junction immediately south of 20 Stone Street, widening at the western end involving the demolition of 13 Darnley Road and The Lodge, Rathmore Road, and signalisation of its junctions with Stone Street and Darnley Road; and improvements to the railway station forecourt, including the provision for taxis and disabled parking. (The proposed scheme is part of the Gravesend Transport Quarter Development which was granted outline planning permission by Gravesham Borough Council in October 2010.)

The proposed development is partly within and otherwise adjoins or is close to the Darnley Road and Upper Windmill Street Conservation Areas and would affect their character and/or appearance, and would also affect the setting of nearby listed buildings.

The County Planning Authority has received additional/amended details relating to the above application which takes account of the proposed development being implemented in advance of the delivery of phase 2 for the Transport Interchange building. These include, a revised scheme plan, Transport Assessment Report June 2013, Noise and Vibration Assessment March 2013 and Air Quality Assessment March 2013 together with a covering letter dated 22 August 2013.

You may view the additional/amended documents and the application, plans and other documents originally submitted with the application on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below or at Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU, during all reasonable office hours within 21 days from the date of this notice.

Anyone who wishes to make representations in relation to the additional/amended details for this application should submit comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 8 September 2013

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 23 SEPTEMBER 2013.

SW/13/0994:
Listed Building Consent for insulating and plastering the east elevation extension. - The Manor House, Ashford Road, SHELDWICH; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0998:
Listed Building Consent for repairs to the roof re-rendering, re-inserting window which has been covered over in render, replace guttering - Stray Orchard Cottage, Sheerness Road, LOWER HALSTOW; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1039:
Demolition of existing car sales showroom and MOT bay and workshop, and the residential development of 2 four bedroom two storey houses and 3 three bedroom two storey houses together with all associated garages, parking spaces and access driveway - Upchurch Garage, 2 Horsham Lane, UPCHURCH; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1052 & SW/13/1079:
New timber fascia with white applied letters, rep trough light, externally illuminated projecting sign, new hardwood timber door, shopfit and disabled facilities - The Tudor Inn, 64-66 High street, SHEERNESS; **REASON 1**

SW/13/1069:
Development of seven houses - Larkrise, Conyer Road, TEYNHAM; **REASON 4**

SW/13/1071:
Replacement of existing cottages with new five bedroomed detached dwelling and garage with associated parking - Woodgate Farm Cottages, Woodgate Lane, BORDEN; **REASON 4**

SW/13/1075:
Reconstruction of industrial premises following demolition due to serious fire - Faversham Linen Services, 29 Ashford Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1, 2 & 3**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

PLANNING

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00691	Part retrospective application for the change of use of land for the keeping horses, erection of stable block incorporating six stables, feed and tack rooms and hay store and the construction of a manege **Land at Castle View Road & Parsonage Farm Road, Church Hougham, Dover, CT15 7AB**	**ARW**
DOV/13/00562	Erection of a detached granny annexe **Capeling House, Gore Road, Eastry, Sandwich, CT13 0LT**	**CAF**
DOV/13/00689	Demolition of existing boundary wall fronting the River Stour and erection of new flood defence wall **Wall Rear of 46 & 46A, Strand Street, Sandwich, CT13 9EX**	**LCN**
DOV/13/00690	Demolition of existing boundary wall fronting the River Stour and erection of new flood defence wall **Wall Rear of 46 & 46A, Strand Street, Sandwich, CT13 9EX**	**LCN**
DOV/13/00698	External alterations and installation of a hanging light **Witches Brew, 28 Church Street St Mary, Sandwich, CT13 9HL**	**LCN**
DOV/13/00708	Erection of a first floor rear extension **Honeysuckle Cottage, Brooke Street, Ash, Sandwich, CT3 2NP**	**ARW**
DOV/13/00700	Change of use and conversion of first floor to two flats **8 St Georges Passage, Deal, CT14 6TA**	**CON**

Reason for Advert Codes:-
ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way **CON** - Within Conservation Area
LCN - Listed Building in a Conservation Area
CAF - The proposal affects a Conservation Area

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/02384/HOUSE **36 Boyne Park, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Replacement extensions (CA)

13/02432/FUL **Former Site Of Kent And Sussex Hospital, Mount Ephraim, Culverden**
- Erection of temporary school with associated play surface for 1 academic year (2014-2015) (CA) (LB)

13/02440/FULMJ **The Abbeyfield Kent Society, Crofton Lodge, Culverden**
- Minor Material Amendments to planning permission TW/11/01268/FULMJ - Redevelopment to provide an 18 unit Class C2 close support residential care facility, with staff accommodation, communal facilities, parking and landscaping - The changes are to reduce overall footprint, resite building further into the site to ease parking and increase space between development and Culverden Park Road; Building height and general window positions revised (same number and style) to reflect building plan reduction (MAJOR)

13/02433/LBC **Vine Inn, High Street, Goudhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Minor alteration to approved external ventilation duct (LB)

13/02428/LBC **Kirkins Farmhouse, Maidstone Road, Horsmonden**
- Listed Building Consent - Single-storey sunroom extension and replacement joinery (LB)

13/02447/HOUSE **Holly House, School Hill, Lamberhurst**
- Stand-alone timber garden room (LB) (CA)

13/02424/LBC **The Grove Tavern, 19 Berkeley Road, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Listed Building Consent - New replacement signage and lighting (LB)

13/01932/HOUSE **27 Sunnyside Road, Rusthall, Rusthall**
- Erection of a single storey rear extension and a two storey side extension (CA)

13/02327/HOUSE **Bentham Farm Oast, Victoria Road, Southborough Town Council**
- New small skylight flush to north facing roof of oast, new side window on NE elevation of garage and replacement window to existing window to first floor landing with louvres (CA) (LB)

13/02408/FUL **Bournes Removals, 2 Draper Street, Southborough Town Council**
- Demolition of existing storage building and erection of a 3-storey building comprising two apartments (1 x 1-bed and 1 x 2-bed) with ancillary garaging and parking facilities (CA)

13/02409/CAC **Bournes Removals, 2 Draper Street, Southborough Town Council**
- Conservation Area Consent - Demolition of existing storage building (CA)

13/02462/HOUSE **Danemore Park Lodge, Langton Road, Speldhurst**
- Alterations to convert conservatory to garden room (LB)

13/02465/LBC **Danemore Park Lodge, Langton Road, Speldhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Alterations to convert conservatory to garden room (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 7 Sep 2013

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF DOVER

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ER269 (PART)
IN THE PARISH OF ST MARGARETS AT CLIFFE
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH EB269 (PART))
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath EB269 (part) from NGR TR 344 425 between the top and bottom of the cliff at 'Langdon Bay' for a distance of 200m from 27th August 2013.

The route will be closed for a maximum of 6 months, however it is likely that the closure will be extended for a further period.

The route has been closed as a result of a large cliff fall and there is a danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Andrew Hutchinson

Contact Centre Tel: 0845 345 0210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http:/www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICTS OF DOVER AND SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146 IN THE PARISHES OF DENTON WITH WOOTTON AND ELHAM
PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Byway HE30 / ER146 from Reece Lane to Snode Hill from 23rd September 2013.

The route will be closed to all traffic between Reece Lane and the junction with Public Footpath ER140.

The northern section (between the junction with Public Footpath ER140 and Snode Hill) will be closed to vehicular traffic but will be available for equestrians and pedestrians.

The route will be closed for a maximum of 6 months although it is expected that the planned works may take 2 months to complete.

The route will be closed for the construction of a new water pumping station and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route available.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Edward Denne

Contact Centre Tel: 0845 345 0210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http:/www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZB47 (PART) / ZSX77 (PART) IN THE PARISHES OF QUEENBOROUGH AND SHEERNESS
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZB47 (PART) / ZSX77 (PART))
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath ZB47 (part) / ZSX77 (part) between the junction with Public Footpath ZSX78 (NGR TQ 908 735) and Park Road from 23rd September 2013.

The route will be closed for a maximum of 6 months.

The route will be closed for the construction of a new footbridge to the existing coastal path and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

Contact Centre Tel: 0845 345 0210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http:/www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ZR92 AND ZU52 IN THE PARISHES OF IWADE AND BOBBING
PUBLIC FOOTPATHS ZR92 AND ZU52
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpaths ZR92 and ZU52 between 10 and 11 Coleshall Cottages, Sheerstone and Sheppey Way from 23rd September 2013.

The route will be closed for a maximum of 6 months.

The route will be closed for the construction of a road, bridge and pumping station and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

An alternative route is available along Sheppey Way and Monins Road, Iwade.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

Contact Centre Tel: 0845 345 0210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http:/www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU30 IN TONBRIDGE
PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU30
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath MU30, between The Gardens of Remembrance and River Lawn from the 2nd September 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path is to be closed because works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is an alternative route via pedestrian bridges to the sports ground.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michele Snoding

Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX **Dated: 8th September 2013**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

THE RIDGEWAY, SMEETH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Ridgeway, Smeeth.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The closure is planned to commence from 10 September 2013 for up to 5 days. Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside normal working hours.

The alternative route is via A20 Hythe Road and Church Road.

A2070 SIDE ROADS, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Due to Highways Agency closures of the A2070 Trunk Road for resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily restrict traffic on various side roads in the vicinity of the A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road, Ashford.

Closures of the A2070 are planned to commence from 23 September 2013 for up to 4 weeks.

Closures of the A2070 will be on weekday nights from 20:00 hours through until 06:00 hours each night. Only one carriageway of the A2070 will be closed at any one time.

These closures will affect side roads that join the A2070, dependent on which carriageway is closed.

SOUTHBOUND CLOSURES

When the southbound / westbound carriageway of the A2070 (towards A2070 Hamstreet Bypass) is closed, the following will apply.

CHURCH ROAD, SEVINGTON (east side) will be closed at the junction with the southbound carriageway of the A2070

The alternative route is via A20 Hythe Road and Highfield Lane

WATERBROOK AVENUE will be closed at the Orbital Park Roundabout junction with the A2070.

There is no alternative route

NORTHBOUND CLOSURES

When the eastbound / northbound carriageway (towards M20 Junction 10) is closed, the following will apply.

THE BOULEVARD will be closed at Orbital Park Roundabout junction with the A2070

The alternative route is via Monument Way, Crowbridge Road, Crowbridge Link, Boys Hall Road, Sevington Lane, Church Road and A292 Hythe Road

BARREY ROAD will be closed at the junction with the northbound carriageway of the A2070

The additional alternative route to join the diversion for The Boulevard closure is via Church Road, Sevington and Sevington Lane, with the road re-opened as below

This diversion has the following additional effects

CHURCH ROAD, SEVINGTON & SEVINGTON LANE – the Order to that closes access between Church Road and Sevington Lane will be suspended for the duration of these works, to allow its use as the diversion, with the temporary removal of the bollards

A temporary 7.5 T weight restriction will be imposed on Church Road, Sevington and Sevington Lane in both directions, between the junctions with Barrey Road Boys Hall Road.

Waiting will be prohibited on Church Road, Sevington and Sevington Lane to the extents defined below, when the relevant signs and No Waiting cones are displayed on site. This applies between 19:30 hours through until 06:00 hours on any nights that the northbound carriageway of the A2070 is closed.

SEVINGTON LANE – waiting will be prohibited on both sides, between the junctions with Church Road, Sevington and Boys Hall Road

CHURCH ROAD, SEVINGTON – waiting will be prohibited on both sides, between the junctions with Barrey Road and Sevington Lane

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

THE BROADWAY, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Broadway, Herne Bay.

The Broadway will be closed between the junctions with Grand Drive and Alexandria Drive.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Ridgeway Cliff, Carlton Hill and Grand Drive.

FAVERSHAM ROAD, SEASALTER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a detailed examination of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Faversham Road, Seasalter.

Faversham Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with access from either direction up to the point of closure, but no through access.

The closure is planned to commence on Monday 9 September at 22:00 hours through until 06:00 hours

The alternative routes are

WESTBOUND via Seasalter Lane, A299 Thanet Way, Staple Street, Staple Street Road, Head Hill, Head Hill Road and Seasalter Road

EASTBOUND via Seasalter Road, Head Hill Road, Head Hill, Whitstable Road, A299 Thanet Way, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Joy Lane and Faversham Road.

HIGHWAYS – DARTFORD AREA

WHITEHILL ROAD, LONGFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because BT need to lay a duct in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Whitehill Road, Longfield, on or after 23rd September 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between B260 and Hookgreen Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between these locations.

The alternative route is via B260 Green Street Green Road, B262 Sandbanks Hill Highcross Road B255

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT NO 8) ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2, 4 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984:

The effect of the Order would be to:

1. Introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) restrictions on the following roads or lengths of road in Dartford:

MAIN ROAD (B260), LONGFIELD HILL

On the southern side of Main Road 10 metres from the junction with Manor Road in a north westerly direction to a point 16 metres east of the junction with Nursted Lane.

Full details are contained in the draft Orders which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders, may be examined between 8.30am and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays at Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR and at Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ.

Any person wishing to support or object to the making of the Order should do so in writing by 12pm on 4th October 2013 to Paul Thrower Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD, or by email to paul.thrower@kent.gov.uk.

HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

MIDDLE DEAL ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Middle Deal Road, Deal.

Middle Deal Road will be closed in the vicinity of numbers 276 to 282.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Bowling Green Lane, A258 London Road and Middle Deal Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PRIORY ROAD, DOVER) (ONE WAY STREET) ORDER 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HAS MADE THE ABOVE NAMED ORDER UNDER SECTIONS 1(1), 2(1) TO (3), 3(2), 4(1) AND (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 AND 53 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, AND OF ALL OTHER ENABLING POWERS, AND AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CHIEF OFFICER OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 20 OF SCHEDULE 9 TO THE ACT:

The effect of this Order implements a one-way traffic flow at the following location:

Priory Road, Dover (entire length) From south to north

This is purely an administrative procedure and will result in no change to what is currently in place.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by this Order and a statement of reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council, Javelin Way Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Kent, CT16 3PJ during normal opening hours.

The Order will be made on 5 September 2013 and will come into operation on 9 September 2013.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make an application to the High Court for this purpose.

A260 THE STREET, DENTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of A260 The Street, Denton.

The Street will be closed between the junctions with Denton Lane and Agester Lane.

There will be no direct access for through traffic between Folkestone / Hawkinge and the A2, using the A260.

Closures are planned to commence from 23 September 2013 for up to 3 nights, between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The alternative route is via A260 Canterbury Road, Oak Hill, Swanton Lane, Lydden Hill, A2 Dover Road, (plus A260 Old Dover Road in reverse), and A260 Canterbury Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER DISTRICT)

(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) CONSOLIDATION (AMENDMENT NO 20) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to prohibit waiting at any time at the following locations:-

Bevan Close, Deal – On the north-east side of the road. From the junction with Telegraph Road for 10m in a north-westerly direction.

On the north-east side of the road. From a point 33m north-west of the junction with Telegraph Road, for a distance of 30m in a north-westerly direction.

On the south-west side of the road. From the junction with Telegraph Road for a distance of 63m.

Telegraph Road, Deal – On the north-west side of the road. For a distance of 10m either side of the junction with Bevan Close.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council, Javelin Way Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH, between 8.30am and 5.00pm, and at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield, Kent, CT16 3PJ during normal opening hours.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to Traffic Schemes Team,, Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to traffic.schemes@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 30 September 2013.

HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

LOWER HIGHAM ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of Footway surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to become effective on 9th September for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The following restriction will apply while the works are in progress.

No Entry into lower Higham Road from the Lion Roundabout (A226 Rochester Road)

The alternative route is via A226 Rochester Road, Chalk Road, Lower Higham Road one way

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

BROOMFIELD ROAD, BROOMFELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broomfield Road, Broomfeld, on or after 25 September 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, Chegworth Road, Lenham Road, Gravelly Bottom Road.

BUCKLAND LANE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of an examination of the railway bridge, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Buckland Lane, Maidstone, on or after 25 September 2013 for up to 1 night between 22.00hrs and 06.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the railway bridge.

SIMMONDS LANE, OTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of kerbing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Simmonds Lane, Otham, on or after 11 September 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via White Horse Lane, Honey Lane.

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

BLAKES GREEN ROAD, SEAL, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage improvement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Blakes Green Road, Seal, Sevenoaks, on or after 23rd September 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Bitchet Farm for a length of 50m and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Bitchett Green Road, Pond Lane, Stone Street.

HIGHWAYS – SHEPWAY AREA

BREWERS HILL, SANDGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow investigation of and repairs to drainage issues, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Brewers Hill, Sandgate.

The closure is between Wellington Place and the Earl of Clarendon Public House.

The road has already been closed under an Emergency Traffic Notice and this Order takes effect from 9 September 2013, extending the closure until

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

a permanent solution can be found and repairs completed.

It is currently unknown how long the road will be closed, dependent on the seriousness of the problems. It is likely the road will be closed until at least the end of September 2013.

The alternative route is via Wellington Place.

CASTLE HILL AVENUE, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a sewer system for a new housing development, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone.

This affects the section of Castle Hill Avenue between Shorncliffe Road and Bouverie Road West.

Each carriageway will need to be closed in turn, for up to 4 weeks each.

The southbound carriageway (towards Sandgate Road and The Leas) will be closed between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, from 9 September 2013 for an estimated period of up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2034 Shorncliffe Road, Cheriton Road, A2033 Middelburg Square and Bouverie Road West.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the southbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, to allow limited access when this is safe.

The northbound carriageway will then be closed from a planned start date of 7 October for up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2033 Castle Hill Avenue, Sandgate Road, Earl's Avenue and Shorncliffe Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the northbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Bouverie Road West and Shorncliffe Road to allow access, including to the Magistrates Court and Civic Centre.

A259 SANDGATE ESPLANADE & SANDGATE HIGH STREET, SANDGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a sewer system for a new housing development, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone.

This affects the section of Castle Hill Avenue between Shorncliffe Road and Bouverie Road West.

Each carriageway will need to be closed in turn, for up to 4 weeks each.

The southbound carriageway (towards Sandgate Road and The Leas) will be closed between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, from 9 September 2013 for an estimated period of up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2034 Shorncliffe Road, Cheriton Road, A2033 Middelburg Square and Bouverie Road West.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the southbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Shorncliffe Road and Ingles Road, to allow limited access when this is safe.

The northbound carriageway will then be closed from a planned start date of 7 October for up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via A2033 Castle Hill Avenue, Sandgate Road, Earl's Avenue and Shorncliffe Road.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the northbound carriageway will suspended between the junctions with Bouverie Road West and Shorncliffe Road to allow access, including to the Magistrates Court and Civic Centre.

Waiting will be prohibited at all times on both sides of the northbound carriageway, between the junctions with Bouverie Road West and Shorncliffe Road, when the relevant signs and No Waiting cones are on site.

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

CLOCK HOUSE LEVEL CROSSING, BOUGHTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER SEPTEMBER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clock House Level Crossing, Boughton, Faversham, as follows.

Clockhouse Lane, Boughton will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing, with no access for through traffic.

The closure is planned to commence from Saturday 28 September at 20:00 hours through until Monday 30 September at 05:30 hours.

The alternative route is via Clockhouse Lane, Selling Road and Brenley Lane.

OSIER ROAD, TEYNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a detailed inspection of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Osier Road, Teynham.

Osier Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

The closure is planned from Thursday 12 September at 22:00 hours through until 06:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Lower Road and Conyer Road.

PORTERS LANE, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Porters Lane, Faversham.

Porters Lane will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with A251 Ashford Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 9 September 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A251 Ashford Road, A2 London Road, Brogdale Road and Porters Lane.

SEASALTER ROAD, GRAVENEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Seasalter Road, Graveney.

Seasalter Road will be closed between the properties Tashmiri Mews and Fairview.

The closure is planned to commence from Wednesday 11 September 2013 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The closure is in the vicinity of the junction with Cleve Hill Road, and access to Cleve Hill Road will be maintained from a southern direction, but some delays may be expected.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside normal working hours.

The alternative route is via Faversham Road (note 11' 6" height restriction), Joy Lane, Borstal Hill, A299 Thanet Way, Head Hill and Head Hill Road.

HIGHWAYS – THANET AREA

A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, WESTGATE ON SEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit westbound through traffic on part of A28 Canterbury Road, Westgate on Sea.

Canterbury Road, Westgate will be closed westbound only between the junction with Minster Road and the western junction with Queen Bertha's Avenue.

Closures are planned for the nights of 11 & 12 September 2013 between 07:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, B2052 George V Avenue, Hartsdown Road, Tivoli Road, Beatrice Road, A254 Ramsgate Road, A256 Haine Road, Lord of the Manor interchange, A299 Hengist Way, Canterbury Road West, Thanet Way and A28 Canterbury Road.

Eastbound traffic is unaffected.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING

STATION ROAD, AYLESFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of essential repairs at the level crossing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Station Road, Aylesford, on or after:

00.30hrs – 05.30hrs Wednesday 25 September 00.30hrs – 05.30hrs Thursday 26 September 2013

23.40hrs Monday 28 October – 04.50 Tuesday 29 October 2013

23.40hrs Tuesday 29 October – 04.50 Wednesday 30 October 2013

23.40hrs Wednesday 30 October – 04.50hrs Thursday 31 Oct 2013

23.40hrs Thursday 31 October – 04.50hrs Friday 01 November 2013

00.05hrs – 04.00hrs Saturday 02 November 2013

23.40hrs Monday 04 November – 04.50hrs Tuesday 05 November 2013

23.40hrs Tuesday 05 November–04.50hrs Wednesday 06 November 2013

23.40hrs Wednesday 06 November – 04.50hrs Thursday 07 November 2013

23.40hrs Thursday 07 November – 04.50hrs Friday 08 November 2013

23.40hrs Monday 11 November – 04.50 Tuesday 12 November 2013

23.40hrs Tuesday 12 November – 04.50hrs Wednesday 13 November2013

23.40hrs Wednesday 13 November – 04.50hrs Thursday 14 November 2013

23.40hrs Thursday 14 November – 04.50hrs Friday 15 November 2013

23.40hrs Tuesday 10 December – 04.50hrs Wednesday 11 December 2013

23.40hrs Wednesday 11 December – 04.50hrs Thursday 12 December 2013

The road will be closed at the level crossing.

The alternative route is via Hall Road, A20 London Road, Rocky Hill, Broadway, St Peter's Bridge, Fairmeadow, A229 Royal Engineers Road, Running Horse Roundabout, Forstal Road, Bailey Bridge Road.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 8th September 2013

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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CRICKET

Six players sign deals at Kent, with bowlers David Griffiths and Mitch Claydon joining the squad

Kent to change recruitment policy in line with 'evolution'

Pictures: ADY KERRY



FUTURE LEADER? Talented Sam Northeast has long been tipped for captaincy at the county

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

CHANGES are afoot at Kent, with chief executive Jamie Clifford eyeing the next stage in the evolution of the county's team.

This week, contracts were handed to six players, two of whom – Hampshires's David Griffiths and former Durham loanee Mitch Claydon – have come in, while Daniel Bell-Drummond, Fabian Cowdrey, Sam Northeast and Calum Haggett extended their stay at the club.

Question marks remain over the futures of Charlie Shreck, Alex Blake, Ashley Shaw and Michael Powell, who are all out of contract with negotiations ongoing.

The county have already doubled the number of permanent arrivals from last season, when Haggett was the only incoming player, which, as Clifford explains, is a change in policy.

"Last year was a deliberate policy to keep the same squad from one season to the next – that doesn't suggest you're cutting corners but maintaining a commitment," he said.

"There will be a few changes this year, but that's the next part of the evolution of the squad."

The addition of Hants pace bowler Griffiths is one the county have been working on for some time, said Clifford: "We made enquiries right at the start of the season, but there's a formal process you have to go through in letting counties know. We are delighted that he decided his future was to be with us.

"He was in contract until the end of this year. Unless there's something deeper there, players tend not to move mid-season. He's featured in white-ball cricket and is a guy that's got very good pace.

"He's got plenty of years ahead of him. We feel he brings something a bit different in that he can bowl quickly."

Northeast's commitment to the club has been a yearly worry for fans, with the 23-year-old long tipped for big things in the game. His new deal is thought to see him through until 2015.

This week it was reported that Hampshire had made an approach for his services but were turned down after the player had apparently been told he would be the future Kent captain.

That, Clifford said, was pure speculation.

"There are always discussions and players have to weigh up the decisions in front of them," he said. "It has been a struggle on the pitch, but that hasn't impacted on those negotiations and we have attracted players from other counties.

"All players have to weigh up their options – they do have choices as young players. All I know is that the Kent captaincy is decided on an annual basis and there will be a discussion about that as there always is.

"The captaincy speculation is a cross many players have had to bear over the years. It goes with the territory of players that emerge young and have a bright future ahead of them.

"It's a big compliment for a young player. We have gone for home-grown captains as a club. I think that just increases the speculation that Sam might be a candidate, but that's just speculation."

There may be more arrivals at the county, but there is still plenty that could happen between now and the close season.

"There are ongoing discussions all over the place," said Clifford. "You end up with a long list of potential players who have their own discussions with their counties and it's a watering-down process to get somewhere in the market.

"There's still a lot of cricket to be played. A lot can happen in that time."

CONTRACT TALK

Bowlers add experience

IT will be like a homecoming for Mitch Claydon when he links up with Kent for pre-season training.



The 30-year-old Australian, left, has proved a useful loan acquisition at the county from Durham.

On his return to his parent county this week after an injury crisis up north, he took 6-56 in helping Durham beat Sussex.

The second bowler coming to Canterbury is Hampshire's David Griffiths. The former England under-19 player has had his injury problems after graduating from the Hants Academy but has been a consistent performer when needed.

The 27-year-old has 105 first-class wickets to his name.

New deals for quartet

THE ability to keep young talent could prove Kent's best business of the summer.

While Sam Northeast's commitment to the cause will catch the headlines, just as important for the county is the fact that they have kept Daniel Bell-Drummond, below right, Fabian Cowdrey and Calum Haggett.

Haggett has taken 26 County Championship wickets and has the fourth-highest batting average of 44.60.

Cowdrey, also enjoying his first full season, shone in the T20 with 152 runs.



Northeast (2013 CC batting average 24.25) has struggled at times after an impressive 2012 but no doubt has the ability, as proven with his patient 88 in the win over Glamorgan this week.

SPORTS SHORTS

BASKETBALL

Crusaders boost side with two new signings

MEDWAY Park Crusaders have added Omari Coates and Fred Whitehouse to their new-look squad.

Coates, 19, is moving to Kent to attend the University of Kent – Medway after graduating from the basketball academy at Hackney College and playing in EBL Division 1 with Brixton last year.

He has previously played for England under-16s and under-18s.

Whitehouse is no stranger to the Crusaders, having been a product of their under-18s programme and the Basketball Academy at Canterbury High School.

SPEEDWAY

Fifth win has Kings picking up the pace

KENT Kings continued their impressive form of late with their fifth home win in a row.

After a slow start to the campaign, the Sittingbourne-based team have picked up the pace in the latter part of the season, with their most recent win coming over the Isle of Wight Islanders 47-43 at Central Park.

Captain Steve Boxall was again among the points, claiming the first heat, and although he suffered two retirements, Ben Morley, Benji Compton and David Mason racked up the points to put the Kings in with chance of the win.

Youngster Jack Kingston also impressed with a tally of 9+3.

MOTORSPORT

Conway comes out on top in Brazil challenge

MIKE Conway has tasted success in his category of the World Endurance Championships in Brazil.

The Sevenoaks racer started on pole for the six-hour race in the LMP2 series after setting the fastest time in his second qualifying lap.

He drove the first leg of the race at Interlagos ahead of Oreca-Nissan team-mates John Martin and Roman Rusinov.

"I am obviously very happy with the result we had this weekend," said the 30-year-old.

"It has been a long time coming. We have been very strong in the first couple of races, leading nearly every one and showing we were very fast."

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Margate lose forward but sign Millwall pair

STRIKER Zac Attwood has swapped Margate for Maidstone United.

The 24-year-old forward only joined Gate this summer but has jumped ship to Ryman Premier rivals Maidstone after netting three goals in five starts.

His arrival means Ian Draycott has left the Stones. He spent a solitary season at the Gallagher Stadium after arriving from Lewes.

Margate have snapped up the former Millwall pair of right-back Daniel Newman and midfielder Jack Sammoutis.

The teenagers have impressed since featuring briefly at Hartsdown Park in early season.

FOOTBALL

A change in direction is on the horizon, says new Gills loanee

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

DANNY Hollands has only been with Gillingham for a week, but he has already seen enough to suggest that a move north up the table is on the cards sooner rather than later.

The Charlton Athletic midfielder sealed a three-month loan with the Gills before transfer deadline day last weekend to add considerable League One experience to Martin Allen's side.

Three games without defeat, but still without a win, before this weekend's clash at Crawley Town, there have been improving performances, which have not been missed by the 27-year-old loanee.

After coming on as a sub in the 1-1 draw against Bristol City on Saturday, he started his first game in the 3-1 reverse against Leyton Orient in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy on Tuesday night. The latter game was one in which the Gills were on the front foot for large stretches, but they succumbed to a clinical Orient.

"Tuesday I felt we were the better team – things just weren't going for us," said Hollands. "Apart from their three goals, I can't think of any chances they had. We are optimistic, we have just got to look up rather than down.

"There are no easy games in this league. We have got to be positive. We have got to worry about ourselves. We created enough chances on Tuesday to win a couple of games.

"You've got to be in good spirits. We've played Bristol City, Brentford, Leyton Orient – they're all good teams. There are a lot of positives. There is no point being doom and gloom. If you study it and look back at the teams we've played, there are more positives."

Hollands is a man who knows what it takes to get out of League One, having been a mainstay in the Charlton Athletic title-winning side of the 2011/12 season.

He almost achieved back-to-back promotions with Bournemouth. After finishing as runners-up in League Two in 2009/10, the momentum propelled the Cherries into the play-offs, where they lost out in the semi-finals in 2010/11.

He also spent time last season on loan at Swindon Town, whose campaign ended in defeat in the play-offs, although Hollands was by then back with Charlton in the Championship.

"It's a weird league," said the former Chelsea trainee. "You go to some places like Wolves and you can get it down and knock it about, and other places where you have to fight and win headers.

"There's enough quality to make sure we can look forward rather than back.

"There are always a couple of big teams that stand out. But it doesn't matter how big a club is, it's about the 11 players on a pitch on a Saturday.

"We have just got to worry about ourselves and continue what we are doing and make sure we are hungrier than the other side.

"If you can put the results together, you can get anywhere. A couple of years ago I was with Bournemouth – we were one of the smallest clubs in the league but ended up in the play-offs."

Picture: ADY KERRY



POSITIVE: Danny Hollands has been impressed by the performances and feels wins are not far away

He revealed that a passion to play was his reason for coming to the club and it took little persuasion from Allen to make the deal happen.

"One minute you're somewhere, then somewhere else," he said. "He spoke to me last Wednesday and he came across really well. I was happy with what he said with regards to the team and where things were going.

"Some people are happy to sit there picking up the money not playing. I found out I wasn't going to be playing as much and wasn't going to get the chance, so I wanted to come away and play football.

"We [Charlton] played them [Gillingham] in pre-season and they got the ball down and played some nice stuff. I know what the club's about and want to be a part of it."

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

War of words after Wards quit Sittingbourne

SITTINGBOURNE have blasted back after managerial duo Danny and Jim Ward quit the Ryman One South club, saying they had been forced out of their positions.

The Scottish pair resigned after the Brickies won 3-0 at Chatham Town on Tuesday night, bringing an end to six weeks of what Danny called "a losing battle".

The club relocated this summer from their Sittingbourne home of Bourne Park to the Woodstock Sports ground outside the town in a bid to curb mounting running costs.

The move was hailed as saving the club's future, but that will now be without the managerial duo who steered the Brickies to ninth position last season.

Danny Ward said the situation came to a head in recent weeks when they helped pay for a fans' coach to a match and had not been reimbursed, while he also said they had been unable to train properly as they had not been given the keys to the ground.

"It's a bit of a relief, to be honest," said Danny. "We have been fighting a losing battle for the last six weeks. We wanted to take a coach to the FA Cup game for the supporters and I have had to pay for it out of my own pocket – I'm still owed money now.

"We wanted to train at the ground last week but had to stop at 8pm because we didn't have the keys. We have been asking for them a few times every week.

"We have been trying to do things with our arms tied behind our backs. I think they wanted rid of us – that's why we left."

However, Sittingbourne secretary John Pitts pointed to the team's poor start to the season as the reason for the pair's departure.

"They lost five out of their first six league games and we had already decided that what the Ward brothers wanted to do with the budget available was never going to happen.

"Regarding the coach to the FA Cup match [at Chessington and Hook], the committee decided against using a coach due to the financial implications. The Ward brothers took it upon themselves to organise a coach along with some supporters. Therefore those who booked the coach will incur the losses.

"And, as for the keys, there was always someone at the ground. If they wanted to train later, they only had to ask."

Coach Matt Wyatt and captain Nick Davis have been placed in charge of first-team affairs.

ROWING

Historic gold for Ransley and Ritchie

Picture: INTERSPORT IMAGES



RANSLEY: Oar-some effort

ROWING duo Tom Ransley and Dan Ritchie became world champions this week by clinching a historic gold in the men's eights in South Korea.

It is the first time the British team have won the event in the history of the World Rowing Championships, which this year were held in Chungju.

Ransley, a 2012 Olympic bronze-medallist from Ashford, and Ritchie from Herne Bay just pipped rivals Germany to first in a close-fought race.

The victory was even sweeter for the pair, who finished outside the medals at the last World Cup meeting in Lucerne, Switzerland, last month.

Ransley said: "I feel really attached to the eight because I've rowed in it for the last five years and I know how close we have come to that record and breaking it before. It's nice to have finally won it.

"I think we have focused on our training and stayed believing in ourselves and we were strong when it counted."

Ritchie added: "It's great to be part of history. It was pure elation but also relief as we went across the line."

MOTORSPORT

New Dutch test awaits Motorbase pair

OMAN Air Motorbase are gearing up for a new challenge at the famous Zandvoort circuit in The Netherlands this weekend.

Rounds eight and nine of the British GT Championships will give the Wrotham-based team's drivers Ahmad Al Harthy and Michael Caine an entirely new test on Saturday and Sunday, neither having raced there before.

The pair of hour-long races on the former Dutch Grand Prix circuit is another of the highlights of the 2013 British GT season, but the Motorbase team will once more be handicapped by a major weight penalty of 130kg because of the championship organiser's grading of the two drivers. It was previously set at 75kg.

Picture: PSP IMAGES



WEIGHT: Team to carry 130kg

"Ahmad and Michael have never been to Zandvoort before, so we are heading there blind," said team boss David Bartrum. "We are going there very disadvantaged as we are carrying the weight penalty.

"If we are going to consolidate our championship position or go even better, then we need to make the most of these two races and score good points in both.

"We've got two good drivers who work very well together and we've got a very well-drilled team."

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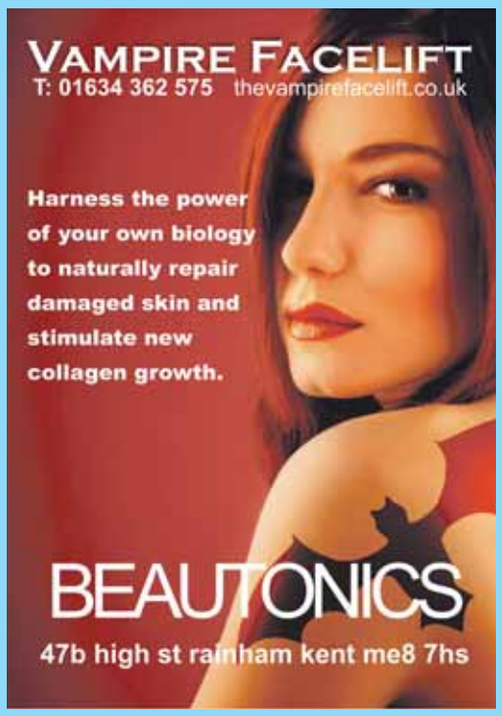












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